
Preface to the Second Edition

The first edition of Redo Cardiac Surgery in Adults was published in 1996 and was a compilation of the proceedings of the First International Symposium on Redo Cardiac Surgery. During the last 16 years, several changes have occurred, not only in the profiles of the patients requiring redo cardiac surgery, but also in the redo cardiac surgical procedures that are performed. Overall, while the experience of cardiac surgeons has increased, the complexity of the surgical procedures and the comorbid conditions of the patients have also increased. Twenty years ago, redo coronary artery bypass surgery was the most common redo cardiac surgery performed in the adult population. Now, isolated redo coronary artery bypass surgery is virtually gone, and more complex redo valvular surgical procedures along with aortic arch and thoracic aortic procedures are performed routinely. These procedures in turn lead to newer redo cardiac surgical procedures. As younger cardiac surgeons enter the field of cardiac surgery, it will be difficult for them to gain extensive experience in all the redo cardiac surgical procedures during the short period of their training. While experienced surgeons have figured out for themselves how to handle various difficult situations, younger surgeons are always looking for some guidance. There have been several improvements over the years in the management of perioperative complications. Perioperative stroke is addressed quickly with various interventional procedures to limit or obviate any neurological deficit. Similarly, renal failure is managed with early dialysis to prevent mortality and improve survival. The purpose of this book is to give some practical suggestions to surgeons rather than to provide lot of theoretical data to the reader.

The book is divided into a Coronary and General section, which includes coronary artery revascularization procedures and management of the common major perioperative complications, and Mitral and Aortic sections. The authors who contributed the chapters are actively practicing their subspecialty and, as such, they present the current standard of care in managing various surgical problems. Though we cannot discuss rare redo cardiac surgical problems, this book focuses on day-to-day surgical problems that arise during the redo cardiac surgery.

We express our special thanks to Shannon Wyszomierski, Ph.D. for her assistance with the editorial work.

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Redo Cardiac Surgery in Adults

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2012, X, 205 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-4614-1325-7