Preface and Acknowledgements

This book *Management of the Patient at High Risk for Breast Cancer* is designed to meet the needs of physicians involved in the care of patients who are at increased risk for developing breast cancer. The goal is to provide up-to-date and evidence-based information on all aspects of care for those who are at an increased risk for developing breast cancer. I am extremely grateful to all of the contributing authors for their time and their expertise, and I thank them for their contributions. I would also like to thank my assistant Burton Korman for all the hard work he put into making this book become a reality. I would especially like to thank Maria Smilios, my developmental editor, who worked tirelessly on this project and kept the project moving forward.

I believe as physicians we cannot underestimate the psychological stress that patients experience when they realize that they are at an increased risk for developing breast cancer. Our goal is to provide our patients with the necessary information which will allow them to make informed decisions about either surveillance of their breasts or interventions to reduce their risk from either a medical or a surgical approach. I hope that the information in this book will serve as a strong foundation of knowledge in order to better care for this group of patients.

I would like to dedicate this book to my parents who have always supported me in everything I do. My late father, Dr. Gerard Hansen, who was a practicing obstetrician and gynecologist would have been thrilled to see this book become a reality. My mother, Peggy Hansen, has been a true inspiration to me and her strength, courage, and support have helped shape me into the person I have become.

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