

Preface

It is today admitted that a traumatic carpal ligamentary lesion may lead to an instability and then to a carpal degenerative arthritis. However, the variety of anatomic-pathological classifications and the multiplicity of surgical repair techniques reflect the difficulty to conceive this ligamentary pathology. Truly, the clinical analysis and traditional techniques of investigation face to the complexity of the wrist and to the small size of its components, especially the carpal bones.

The mechanical complexity of the wrist is due to the number of synchronized bones in every movement of the hand, since the forearm to the palm there is not less than 15 in a few volume.

Clinical analysis is in this wrist joint insufficient to measure exactly the mobility, normal or pathologic, of these carpal bones. Paraclinical examinations have a particular place. From x-ray to arthroscopy, including arthro-CT scan and soon MRI, the tools are today available.

Talking about the repairing techniques, their diversity must not hide that a biomechanical and physiological principle is looming and must be sought.

This book is the result of a reflection of an expert group of wrist pathology. It attempts to analyze, to understand, to explain and to make logical, if not obvious, the reflection which must accompany each practitioner in diagnosis and treatment of the carpal ligamentary lesions. This book has voluntarily left aside the degenerative carpal pathology, which usually benefits more visibility in various scientific works.

We hope that with this work the reader may apprehend more globally quite dispersed knowledge and find in this beginning of synthesis the matter to rethink a difficult and sometimes thankless surgery to make a surgical adventure of the twenty-first century.

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Carpal Ligament Surgery

Before Arthritis

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