
Preface

The first exam of my degree course in Medicine and Surgery was Normal Human Anatomy; it was many years ago, and medical students used to say that after passing such an exam, along with the Clinical Pathology one, you could be considered as a medical doctor (there are actually more than 28 exams). I passed both of them brilliantly, but I remember I liked the first one much more: it was my first 30/30 cum laude so far. Years later, at the beginning of my career as a radiologist, through images, I really started to see the real anatomy, that I had previously studied only in books, or, less frequently, in the Pathological Anatomy Department and that I had stored in my mind as a long list of hundreds of names. Another memory of the beginning of my career as a radiologist is that of a convention organized by Professor Gian Franco Pistolesi, an Italian Master in Radiology, titled *Anatomy: The Queen of the Image*. The main subjects were conventional X-ray and cross-sectional imaging (ultrasound scan, CT and MRI), able to “translate” human anatomy into images. I understood that only through the perfect knowledge of the normal anatomy we can understand the pathological patterns, and the radiologist is able to control the imaging instruments only when he is aware of their importance in the description of anatomical findings. The image acquisition (radiographer) and interpretation (radiologist) of the correct images is not possible without a proper knowledge of any single detail of the morphology of the human body: it is essential to highlight, through imaging techniques, the patients’ normal elements, variables and pathological alterations.

This editorial project is a consequence of the above story and follows the publication of my two previous books *Imaging of Urogenital Disease* and *Professione TSRM* (published in Italian only). In the following pages, you will find both anatomical pictures and the corresponding images obtained with the different techniques.

The labor for this book was, unexpectedly fast, and accelerated. I wish I had more time to work on this project, but nowadays hospital doctors have heavy workloads and it is often difficult to find the time for other pleasures such as writing that, for some of us, gives meaning to life. Nevertheless, I hope this is an eutocic delivery, and this book is issued wishing success, or simply a good and profitable reading.

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