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## Preface

This book represents a comprehensive state-of-the-art review of knowledge of the recurrent laryngeal nerve and superior laryngeal nerve as it relates to the thyroid and parathyroid surgical endeavor embracing surgical anatomy, surgical techniques, and the latest technological advances including neural monitoring relating to preservation of these nerves as well as detection and management of neural injuries occurring during thyroid surgery.

This text underscores the electrophysiologic nature of the thyroid and parathyroid surgery. These nerves play an extremely important role in the family life, profession, and sometimes even spiritual life of our patients. The chapters range from neurolaryngology, basic laryngeal function, laryngoscopy indications, and techniques to anatomy and surgical management of both the recurrent and superior laryngeal nerves. Recent advances in intraoperative neural monitoring are given special emphasis including new horizons in both superior laryngeal nerve and continuous vagal monitoring.

Throughout, we have endeavored to impart the material simply in both tabular and visual representations. The strength of the whole book relates to the quality of each part. Each contributor is drawn from the most elite group of researchers, clinicians, and surgeons around the world. They are carefully selected so that their areas of clinical and research contributions to the medical literature match with their chapter topic areas. These contributors provide an overarching unique orientation to their respective topics that goes beyond the individual disparate facts. In numerous chapters, experts from different regions in the world and sometimes from different specialties have been paired to provide a collaborative blending of various heterogeneous elements.

We believe this is the first book that specifically focuses on the neural innervation of the larynx as it relates to the thyroid surgical endeavor. We hope it represents a resource for practicing and academic thyroid and parathyroid surgeons both in training and those with significant experience.

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