

Preface

While I have edited two issues (*BPD: State of the Art—Seminars in Perinatology* August 2006;30:163–232 and *Progress in Experimental and Clinical BPD—Seminars in Perinatology* April 2013;37:59–138) dedicated to various aspects of *Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (BPD)* previously, putting this book on BPD together was a unique opportunity that was offered to me. Since this is a topic near and dear to many neonatologists given the fact that babies in various phases of this disease can be found in most neonatal intensive care units (NICUs), compiling this book presented some interesting challenges. I wanted an international representation of authors for two reasons. One, BPD is a major problem (or becoming one, in some countries) as neonatologists are getting better at saving premature lives around the world, and two, I wanted to tap into the reservoir of international talent of physicians and scientists who have been tackling this problem and making some significant inroads in understanding the pathogenesis and/or providing clinical care and/or evaluating therapeutic options for this condition. My goal was to share the knowledge of the latest state-of-the-art information provided by this international collaborative exercise with those interested in this disease.

With the above in mind, I first divided the different areas of BPD into four categories highlighting *Basic Research*, *Translational Aspects*, *Clinical Aspects*, and *Novel Therapeutic Options*. Next, I distributed the chapters as noted in the table of contents and went about inviting authors who I felt would provide the latest information, as they were actively involved in that area of work. It was such a wonderful feeling when I was able to secure all my first choices of senior authors, in a fairly short time frame. I am extremely grateful to all of them—I consider them more friends, rather than colleagues—for their acceptance of the respective chapters allotted to them and have them delivered to me by the deadline. I am also grateful to the coauthors for working with their mentors and to all of them for their patience as we went through the editing process. The authors hail from the USA, Germany, France, Canada, Spain, Australia, Finland, and South Korea. I hope all of them will enjoy reading the completed product and appreciate the complementary nature of their contributions.

Putting this book together would have been impossible without the support of the Springer team. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Michael Griffin for all his hard work in dotting the “i’s” and crossing the “t’s” (or more precisely, checking on affiliations, permissions, as well as locating “missing” figures and tables).

I sincerely hope that this book will provide an excellent reference to an international audience for those wishing to stay up to date with BPD. This should (I hope) spur more research into preventing, curing, or at the very least, ameliorating this devastating disease of immaturity. This would not only improve the short-term outcomes for the babies we care for, but in the long run, also decrease the respiratory and neurodevelopmental consequences that impact their health and impose such a significant financial burden on these infants (and their parents) during childhood, adolescence, and even reaching up to adulthood.

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