

## Preface

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As a reference center in our institution – Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa Medical Faculty, Neuroradiology Section – we are regularly treating patients with large, giant, and complex aneurysms from the beginning of the modern endovascular era in the early 1990s.

At Symposium Neuroradiologicum 2014, Springer-Verlag approached us with the idea of writing a textbook on giant intracranial aneurysms. I decided to write a case-based atlas instead of a didactic textbook on the subject. The aim was to illustrate neuroendovascular techniques and their evolution over the last two decades in the management of this challenging disease.

We wanted to provoke the readers to deliberate on the individual cases and their management strategies in that period and compare them with the present-day treatment. The time line for the cases is given in individual figure legends and also in a pullout excel sheet.

The book reflects our experience for the past 25 years in treating giant aneurysms in a tertiary care center in Turkey and various other institutions throughout the world. The same group of authors treated all the cases selected in this book. The selection and arrangement of the cases follow a pattern that we believe will stimulate and engage the minds of our readers. Though we have tried to move away from a theoretically intensive textbook, readers looking for salient features and topics of interest related to giant aneurysms will find them in purposely built boxes. These boxes describe either our thought process on a particular aspect of the case under review sometimes supported by illustrations (blue background) or more frequently a synopsis of the current literature pertaining to the topic or a sprinkling of anatomy and relevant embryology (gray background).

The book is divided into two main sections:

*Introduction*—containing description, relevant history, diagnosis, classification, and management options for giant intracranial aneurysms.

*Cases*—arranged to reflect the changing management strategies based on the hemodynamic or morphological characteristics of the giant aneurysms. Additionally, a few relevant open surgical options are described. However, it is not our aim to discuss in detail the open neurosurgical techniques involved in giant aneurysms.

All the cases are described with their dates of treatment and their follow-up. Cases with relatively long follow-ups were given priority over those with short-duration follow-ups in their selection for the book. Furthermore, a selection of a variety of techniques and materials was done to invoke the interest of readers. Figure legends are intentionally kept long and detailed with description including dates, techniques, and our underlying reasoning. A few animations and illustrations have also been included in the boxes and figures to help the reader better understand the technical complexity of the cases. Additionally, a few videos are available online for inquisitive readers to better understand the 3D anatomy and pre- and postprocedural angiograms in selected cases.

I have tried to include and cover all the different aspects that are relevant to giant aneurysms and their management. However, the aim of an atlas is to illustrate by figures rather than words and stimulate thinking on the subject and individual cases among readers rather than a comprehensive textbook on the subject. Finally, though there have been a few technical innovations and breakthroughs in the field of giant aneurysms and their management, we still have a long way to go before we make the management of giant aneurysms completely safe for all our patients.

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**Giant Intracranial Aneurysms**

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