
Preface



Open surgical repair has remained the gold standard for treatment of complex aortic aneurysms for over 6 decades. This has been recently challenged by novel endovascular techniques that use fenestrations, branches, and parallel stent grafts to incorporate side branches of the aorta. The indications and applications of stent grafts were broadened to include patients with complex aortic aneurysms, including those considered good candidates for open surgical repair. Although there are many reasons for the successful dissemination of endovascular aortic repair, including many advances and refinements in vascular imaging, catheter skills, and endovascular technology, none is more important than the passion of vascular surgeons to challenge the status quo and come up with better alternatives to treat complex aortic aneurysms.

Endovascular Aortic Repair: Current Techniques with Fenestrated, Branched, and Parallel Stent Graft has one purpose, which is to fill the gap between clinical knowledge and the technical expertise needed to master novel endovascular approaches to treat a complex aortic disease. The book is organized in a logical fashion to address every step in the care of the patient with aortic aneurysms and dissections. The book is divided into eight sections that address basic

concepts and imaging methods, how to build complex aortic programs, and the technical aspects of managing aneurysms that involve the visceral, arch, and iliac vessels. A special section is devoted to physician-modified grafts and one to complications of endovascular techniques.

The techniques of fenestrated, branched, and parallel stent grafts are described in detail in three main areas: arch, visceral, and iliac. Because these techniques and the technology itself are rapidly evolving, we felt it was important to summarize the evolution of approaches over the last decades using as many illustrations as possible in a didactic manner. The editor worked closely with Mr. David Factor, who has illustrated our work at the Mayo Clinic for many years. The collaboration between the editor and Mr. Factor took over 2 years and over 1000 h, which are reflected in over 600 illustrations (Fig. [P.1](#)) that depict every important technical aspect of these procedures. Although these illustrations accurately reflect the editor or authors' preferences, one must recognize that these are subject to rapid change.

It is the editor's hope that this collection of 49 chapters and over 600 special illustrations provided by an international panel of faculty experts will help enhance the diagnosis and treatment of complex aortic diseases using fenestrated, branched, and parallel stent grafts and, most importantly, will benefit patients in need with complex aortic aneurysms and dissections.

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