
Preface

The concept of this book started after one of the editors (BCS) completed a monograph entitled *Parathyroids* for the Otolaryngology Clinics of North America in 2004. That rewarding experience, combined with a busy parathyroid practice while he was working at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, planted the seeds of a larger parathyroid text in the mind of Dr. Stack. In 2005, Dr. Stack moved to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) where he immediately partnered with Donald Bodenner, M.D., Ph.D., a world-class thyroidologist and ultrasonographer, in forming a thyroid and parathyroid center of excellence. This partnership has continued for 11 years and has been very productive in both scholarly research and clinical production. The nascent idea for a parathyroid text conceived over a decade ago resulted in the present text as a result of the strong collaborative relationship between Drs. Bodenner and Stack and their mutual interest in caring for patients that suffer from parathyroid diseases.

We saw a need for a unique approach to writing a textbook about parathyroid diseases that existed in the present marketplace. Most parathyroid books/texts at the present time cater either to a medical or surgical audience. We thought a text with broader appeal might encourage an interdisciplinary approach to this sometimes complicated and vexing set of diseases. With this in mind, we set out to organize an encyclopedic work on parathyroid diseases. This would draw upon recognized experts from all related medical disciplines from across the globe. It would be organized in an evidence-based format both for reader ease in accessing best practices and understanding but would also mark the frontiers of the medical profession's knowledge of these diseases so as to lead the way for future research and exploration.

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Medical and Surgical Treatment of Parathyroid
Diseases

An Evidence-Based Approach

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2017, XIX, 617 p. 173 illus., 123 illus. in color.,

Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-26792-0