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## Preface

We are pleased to present the third edition of *Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease*. Since the publication of the last edition, there has continued to be an explosion of discoveries and advances in the areas of genetics, immunology, pharmacogenomics, microbiome, optimization of therapeutic delivery, and epidemiologic knowledge, particularly regarding our youngest pediatric patients afflicted with inflammatory bowel disease. These advances have resulted in improved understanding of the etiology and pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel disease and have provided mechanisms to optimize therapeutic management of our patients.

The focus of the textbook remains unchanged. We hope to provide a reference that assists clinicians from multiple disciplines, including primary care, pediatric, and internal medicine gastroenterology – all healthcare providers who care for children with inflammatory bowel disease. This textbook will augment other utilized references, focusing on pediatrics while also incorporating the adult evidence and experience that has informed and influenced the care of children.

The format of the textbook is similar to the last edition, with sections dedicated to etiology and pathogenesis, epidemiology and clinical features, diagnosis, medical and nutritional therapy, surgical therapy, research, and special considerations – a section that includes topics which have become increasingly important and challenging for the experienced clinician, including addressing the psychological aspects of pediatric inflammatory bowel disease, legislative advocacy, transition from pediatric to adult care, and quality improvement. We are pleased to offer topical new chapters regarding immune dysregulation in very early onset pediatric inflammatory bowel disease, fecal markers of disease activity, therapeutic drug monitoring, dietary therapies, complementary and alternative therapies, management of intra-abdominal complications, postoperative surveillance, and fostering self-management and patient activation, coauthored by two parents of patients with pediatric inflammatory bowel disease.

As with the previous two editions, we are indebted to the internationally recognized experts who contributed to this book, inculcating the latest research- and evidence-based clinical opinion to the updated chapters. This edition would not have been possible if not for their generous contributions and dedication.

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