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## Preface

Welcome to the textbook, *The Use of Robotic Technology in Female Pelvic Floor Reconstruction*. The fields of urology and urogynecology, now collectively termed Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery, have rapidly evolved over time. Surgeons adopt new technology with the ultimate goal of providing better care for patients. Robotic surgery is a technological advancement that provides durability through a minimally invasive approach. Outcomes are comparable to laparoscopic surgery. Since robotic technology allows surgeons without laparoscopic training to perform good laparoscopy, we anticipate that the use of the robot in FPMRS will only increase.

This textbook is designed to provide guidance for surgeons wishing to perform the most common robotic procedures in FPMRS. We first seek to teach robotic surgery to readers with a background in FPMRS but not in robotics. We were once in that place, experiencing the frustrations of a beginner learning a new technology, despite fellowship training and expertise with other approaches. We also wish to reach out to non-FPMRS surgeons, specifically urologists adept at robotic prostatectomy, who may be able to technically perform the steps of a robotic ASC, yet may not know certain nuances. Such nuances, which include when to place a prophylactic sling and when to perform a concomitant posterior vaginal wall repair, have a significant impact on postoperative outcomes. And lastly, we seek to reach out to anyone in training, either before, during, or after residency, who seek to learn more about robotic technology in FPMRS.

We wish to thank each author in this textbook, each of whom has specific expertise in the field and provides a wealth of information. Dr. Amy Rosenman, Past President of the American Urogynecologic Society, has years of experience treating prolapse both surgically and nonsurgically and provides an excellent review on patient candidacy for surgery. Drs. Una Lee and Arianna Smith each provide detailed explanations addressing concomitant surgeries and when they should and should not be performed. Thank you to Drs. Kim Kenton, M. Jonathon Solnik, and Christopher Tarnay, all gynecologists by training, not only for your chapters, but especially for your willingness to train us (urologists) and make us proficient in robotic hysterectomy. Drs. David Magner and Beth Moore have taught us a great deal about the role of robotic technology in combined rectal and vaginal prolapse. Dr. Bilal Chughtai provides a comprehensive synthesis of the literature addressing uterine sparing approaches robotically. And lastly, our own colleagues at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Drs. Hyung Kim, Christopher Dru, and Devin

Patel, who demonstrate how to apply robotic technology to robotic reconstructive procedures other than sacrocolpopexy.

Thank you to Springer Publishing Company for the support and inspiration to write this book, and a special thanks to Miss Elise Paxson, who has helped us so patiently in putting all the pieces of this book together. We are also grateful to each other for patiently assisting as we each climbed, and ultimately passed, our individual learning curves in robotic surgery.

We dedicate this textbook to the Anger family (Lowell, Arielle, Amanda, and Joshua) and the Eilber family (Fritz, Dylan, Parker, and Alexandra), who understand the sacrifices that the two of us make on a daily basis to be wives, mothers, and surgeons. We are indebted, grateful, and, because of your support, tireless.

Beverly Hills, CA, USA

Jennifer T. Anger, M.D., M.P.H.  
Karyn S. Eilber, M.D.

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Anger, J.; Eilber, K. (Eds.)

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