
Textbook of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Michele Maruccia • Giuseppe Giudice
Editors

Textbook of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

Basic Principles and New
Perspectives



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Foreword 1

It is with great pleasure and honor that I, as President of the Italian Society of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery, introduce this new Textbook of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, which joins most, if not all, Italian plastic surgery names to provide the highest quality work.

As plastic surgeons we are always bound by the desire to perform the best care for our patients and this philosophy surely inspired all authors in writing their chapters. Many of the contributors are plastic surgery experts; however, there is also a new span of young surgeons whose contributions are equally outstanding, providing a new and contemporary input.

The Plastic Surgery School of Bari, with its old tradition in the South of Italy, has trained an entire generation of plastic surgeons in the last 30 years and has maintained its high standard in research and training. This book offers different approaches and techniques to classical and newer clinical problems.

We hope you enjoy this up-to-date Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery book, witness of the growth and advancement of Italian plastic surgery in Europe in the last decades.

Francesco D'Andrea
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Foreword 2

Plastic surgery deals with the entire body by representing the scaffold all surgeries are based on. There is a constant demand of comprehensive information and instruction on plastic surgery. The aim of this book is to give students, trainees, and young practitioners the opportunity to approach the spectrum that is plastic surgery, providing a comprehensive and single-volume textbook. The book is aimed at practicing plastic surgeons, residents, medical students, and physician's assistants to meet the need of intuitive, easy reading and effective homing of concepts of interest. This text does not aim to describe the entire body of plastic surgical knowledge, but it represents a practical source of information and it delivers an attractive introduction to the subject. Indications, anatomy, surgical techniques, and advantages and disadvantages of the discussed topics are mainly given by intuitive, readily available, and precise information to help a day-to-day learning. The chapters are described in such an accessible arrangement to help each individual reader to achieve a satisfactory plastic surgical knowledge. The high quality of this book is provided by the authors which are consultant plastic surgeons, and each adds exceptional value to the text. This core knowledge is a collection of current thoughts gleaned from the wide experience of the authors. Evidence-based advice from experts is fundamental to give information about typical difficulties than can occur during the decision-making process. The splitting of complex topics into simple notes makes the learning process easier to master every subject successfully. This is the first Italian book edited in English language. Each chapter represents the best combination of simplicity and comprehensiveness where the answer the reader needs can be easily found. We hope this attractive and comprehensible method will act as a stimulus to plastic surgery approach for all surgeons who are involved in this area.

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Preface

As we are living in an era of ongoing globalization, over the decades, plastic surgery took advantage of the exchange of information and knowledge within the international scientific community. Therefore, knowing how to express concepts in English, the most used scientific language, it is essential to students who often rely on English textbooks to deepen their knowledge.

The idea behind this book is to meet the demand of the new generations of future doctors with a complete and modern book which reflects the changes in the specialty that has immensely evolved in the last decades. This book was designed to become a “survival manual” for the study of plastic and reconstructive surgery, for medical students, but it could also be a useful tool for future plastic surgeons to study and review the principles of the discipline. To achieve this ambitious project, the authors understood that cooperation was vital. This is where globalization plays an important role and its positive sides can be seen. For this reason, for each specific section, world experts in each field have been involved and gave their contribution, making this book a joint effort.

The book is divided into six parts that cover all areas of interest in plastic, reconstructive, and aesthetic surgery. The first part deals with the basic principles of plastic and reconstructive surgery, covering issues ranging from the process of healing, flaps, and grafts to microsurgery; this latter branch is constantly increasing given the extent of the multidisciplinary of plastic surgery. Once acquired these tools, the student will be able to understand deeply the following specialized chapters.

In particular, Part II deals with the malformative pathologies divided between head, neck, limbs, and genitals; Part III tackles the role of the plastic surgeon in trauma. In recent years, there are many popular disciplines such as orthoplasty or hand surgery that always see the plastic surgeon as the main character. Part IV is dedicated to skin and soft tissue tumors. Part V covers pathologies treated by the plastic surgeon divided by anatomical district: breast, abdomen, nerve, and lymphatic surgery. It also deals with topical issues such as transgender surgery and transplantation up to the most advanced reconstruction techniques. A relevant role is played by the regenerative surgery that has led in the last decade to a revolution in the concept of reconstructive plastic surgery. The final part deals with plastic and aesthetic surgery in which the main aesthetic surgical procedures are quickly described underlining how the plastic surgeon preserves not only the function but also the aesthetic aspects in making this a unique discipline.

The book ends with a chapter dedicated to the role of the plastic surgeon in the Covid-19 era. The pandemic has revolutionized the life of each one of us, has given us time to reflect on many aspects, and has seen the rediscovery of true and sincere values. The plastic surgeon has fought in the front lines against Covid-19 and the academic world has also done so through numerous scientific testimonies. This book was born in this era and wants to be a tool that highlights the role of reconstructive and aesthetic plastic surgery, not only in the biomedical world but also in modern society.

Bari, Italy

Michele Maruccia

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