Preface

The field of spine surgery is evolving at an extraordinary pace. In just a few decades, endoscopic techniques have matured from a less-known alternative to cornerstone procedures in modern surgical practice. What was once met with skepticism is now considered essential, as minimally invasive approaches offer safer, faster, and more patient-centered outcomes.

It has been our privilege to witness this transformation firsthand. From early lumbar decompression techniques to the expanding reach of endoscopy into the cervical, thoracic, and fusion domains, the progress has been nothing short of remarkable. This book, building on the legacy of *Endoscopic Spine Procedures* which was first published in 2011, reflects that growth—offering a comprehensive and practical resource that is both a snapshot of current best practices and a preview of what lies ahead.

Despite the rapid evolution of surgical technology, the human spine has not changed. Our mission as surgeons remains constant: to relieve suffering and restore function, using every tool available with precision and purpose. Today, those tools include not only endoscopes and tubular retractors but also artificial intelligence, surgical robotics, navigation platforms, and extended reality systems. These technologies are no longer peripheral; they are increasingly central to how we plan, execute, and refine spinal procedures.

This book brings together a global community of physicians, leaders, innovators, and educators who generously share their knowledge, techniques, and experiences. Whether you are a student discovering the field, a trainee refining your skills, or a seasoned spine surgeon seeking to expand your practice, this volume offers practical insights, technical pearls, and evidence-based guidance. It is richly illustrated, supported by video content, and structured to serve as a dynamic learning tool across stages of training and clinical experience.

We are deeply grateful to all the authors and collaborators who helped bring this edition to life. Their work ensures that endoscopic spine surgery continues to grow, adapt, and rise to the challenges of the future. The era we are entering is not only minimally invasive but also intelligent, robotic, and immersive.

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