
Preface

The first edition of *One Hundred Orthopedic Conditions Every Doctor Should Understand* was enthusiastically received by medical students, residents, and even practitioners. Various readers praised the case-study format and the lighthearted tone for catalyzing retention of practical information regarding our bones and joints. A reviewer for JAMA even described the book as a combination of Dr. Seuss and O. Henry on musculoskeletal conditions. Mission accomplished.

In the ensuing 14 years, however, much has changed. We are beginning to understand the molecular foundations of bone formation and repair. Growth factors and tissue engineering strategies have moved from the laboratory into clinical use. Osteoporosis is a four-letter word and is aggressively treated. Diagnostic imaging continues to expand its role in patient care, and MRI in particular has become ubiquitous. Surgical instrumentation seems to improve constantly, and minimally invasive approaches ranging from arthroscopy to even total joint replacement continue to refine our techniques.

What has not changed is the way people learn. Perhaps a dry dissertation of facts can be memorized, but the information is unlikely to be retained. Doctors learn best when presented with real-life situations or at least simulations, so in this new edition the case-study formats remain. Facts, theories, and novel treatment principles have been updated where appropriate. Controversies that have developed in the field are mentioned, although their exploration is left to the curious through the advanced reading references. We have also enhanced the number and quality of images both to reflect their clinical prevalence and importance and to reinforce findings introduced by each case.

We are pleased that nearly all of the original authors agreed to participate in shaping the second edition. Their diligence and creativity was and is paramount to the book's success. We also congratulate all of the professionals at Quality Medical Publishing for doing exactly what the company's name describes. From the efforts of all involved, we hope that you will share our enthusiasm and awe for the ever-expanding realm of orthopedics.

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