

The ASCRS Textbook of Colon and Rectal Surgery

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Third Edition

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 Springer



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Videos to this book can be accessed at <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-25970-3>

ISBN 978-3-319-25968-0 ISBN 978-3-319-25970-3 (eBook)
DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-25970-3

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016936561

Springer Cham Heidelberg New York Dordrecht London

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Jointly published with The American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, Arlington Heights, IL, USA

Printed on acid-free paper

Springer International Publishing AG Switzerland is part of Springer Science+Business Media (www.springer.com)

Foreword

One given definition of the word *textbook* is “a book used as a *standard* work for the study of a particular subject.” Our collective goal for the third edition of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons’ *ASCRS Textbook of Colon and Rectal Surgery* was to make this volume *the standard* for the study of colon and rectal surgery, providing a valuable resource for surgeons and healthcare providers at all stages of their career caring for patients with colorectal disease. In line with previous editions, we aimed to build upon the collective experience and expertise from national and international experts in the field, providing a completely revamped, up-to-date tome covering the wide breadth of colorectal disease. In addition to providing all newly written chapters, we have reorganized the text around the “pillars” of colorectal disease: perioperative (including endoscopy), anorectal disease, benign disease (including inflammatory bowel disease), malignancy, pelvic floor disorders, and a “miscellaneous” section that covers aspects both inside and beyond the operating room that are pertinent to providers at every level. This restructuring coincides effectively with the ASCRS Online Education Portal (www.fascrs.org) and mirrors the configuration of the Society’s collection of educational and CME-accredited programs including CREST and CARSEP. In addition, each chapter contains several **Key Concepts** that succinctly depict the major learning objectives for individual sections and are in line with the Core Curriculum for Colon and Rectal Surgery provided by the Association of Program Directors in Colon and Rectal Surgery and the key topics used by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery.

In addition, we have expanded beyond the initial print-only edition to encompass a multimedia platform with the availability of an electronic version of the text along with online videos depicting procedures, tips and tricks, and complications—all easily accessible through desktops, tablets, and smartphones to accommodate the mobile healthcare world in which we live.

While this textbook was originally conceived as a means of providing state of the art information to residents in training and fully trained surgeons, our hope, more than anything, is that this volume continues to support the mission of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons as the world’s most established authority on colon and rectal disease. We are honored to have been a part of this project and wish to thank the leaders of the ASCRS for their continued support of the textbook. We especially would like to recognize the editors of the first and second editions for having the vision and purpose to produce such high-quality, evidence-based texts that have made the *ASCRS Textbook of Colon and Rectal Surgery* the success and reference it remains today. Lastly, we would like to thank our Developmental Editor Elektra McDermott for her extraordinary efforts and thoroughness in overseeing and ensuring its timely completion, and each chapter author and coauthor(s) for their devotion to this task and to the mission of the ASCRS. Since inception, it has been our privilege and pleasure to work with this tremendous gathering of authors and editors, as their unique contributions have come together to make this textbook a reality.

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Preface

The field of Colon and Rectal Surgery has a long and respected tradition of patient service, knowledge expansion, and education. The American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) is the premier professional organization of this specialty. The leaders of our Society (ASCRS) recognized that there were several textbooks in the field of Colorectal Surgery, but none of which could be deemed as truly representative of the collective objective views of the ASCRS. At the inaugural meeting of the senior and associate editors, prior to the 2007 publication of the *ASCRS Textbook of Colon and Rectal Surgery* 1st edition, the group made several fundamental decisions. One of those decisions was to have chapters extensively referenced, authoritatively written, appropriately illustrated, and as unbiased as possible. This very important latter point was strictly enforced by adherence by the chapter authors to ASCRS materials including the evidence-based ASCRS clinical practice guidelines, core subjects, presentations at our annual meeting, questions in the colon and rectal self-assessment program (CARSEP), and material otherwise presented through official society vehicles. In addition, first edition chapters were, in general, written by a “junior” and a “senior” coauthor. A second decision was a rotation schedule for the editors: two to three of the editors would rotate off after each edition. This would provide wider participation and ensure that the text would represent the specialty as a whole and not a select group of individuals.

The overwhelming success of the first edition led to the publication of a second edition in 2011. The second edition expanded upon the first edition, added new authors, supplemented a significant number of color plates, and increased the text itself from 810 to 946 pages. The vision provided by the leaders of our Society was certainly correct, as attested to by the tremendous interest in both editions of the ASCRS textbooks. We are proud that the standardized reference for evidence-based material in Colorectal Surgery is the work product of our Society members, owned by our Society, and has become a source of financial support to our Society. In addition, a corresponding manual (the *ASCRS Manual of Colon and Rectal Surgery*), designed more towards residents in training and physicians desiring a focused reference, has been released for each edition and has also been exceptionally popular.

The continued rapid expansion of knowledge, in part attested by the increased number of pages in each subsequent edition, as well as the new technologies and new techniques has ensured the longevity of our work and has necessitated this third edition. We congratulate the current editors Drs. Scott Steele, Tracy Hull, Thomas Read, Anthony Senagore, Theodore Sacclarides, and Charles Whitlow on their tremendous accomplishment. We also thank all of the chapter authors and coauthors whose dedication, devotion, energy, and expertise have enabled the editors to produce this volume. The third edition has been reorganized and completely rewritten to reflect advances in our specialty and the evolution of our practice. In addition, the current grouping of topics serves as a framework for the ongoing educational efforts of the Society and certification process by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery.

New developments in the management of colorectal diseases and our colleagues’ continued search for answers have produced the need for this and future editions of the *ASCRS Textbook*

of Colon and Rectal Surgery. We are gratified that this significant educational endeavor continues to flourish. We commend this work to every practitioner of colorectal surgery throughout the world and eagerly await reports of its success.

New Orleans, LA
Weston, FL

Dave Beck, MD
Steven Wexner, MD

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