

Foreword

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Although I specialize in complex revision joint arthroplasty of the lower extremity, I wait in anticipation for every new issue of this comprehensive journal of all surgical specialties. In addition to the vast diversity of the orthopaedic reports in this journal, I enjoy reading reports from other fields and applying the knowledge to the field of orthopaedics. In this 30th Anniversary Edition of Surgical Technology International, a reader will find the expected high quality publications on various surgical topics, including: Surgical Overview, Advanced Wound Healing, General Surgery, Hernia Repair, Gynecology, Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery, Orthopaedic Surgery, and Neuro and Spine Surgery.

This issue begins with a wide-ranging report on patient communication, specifically on how to explain potential side effects and complications of a surgical procedure to a patient. Such knowledge applies to all surgical fields.

Reports on negative-pressure wound therapy and various collagen extracellular matrix dressings have implications in orthopaedics and other surgical fields. The reports in neuro and spine surgery are the most directly related to my field and may impact my practice the most. Specifically, the reports on peripheral nerve regeneration, inferior iliac spine avulsion, and reports on various spine and intracranial tumors.

This issue encompasses a vast knowledge in orthopaedics, including novel techniques and implants for total hip and knee arthroplasty, such as robotic technology, as well as Achilles tendon repair. In addition, various new methods of pain control with long acting local anesthetics as well as nerve blocks are described. Intraarticular tranexamic acid for intraoperative bleeding control, and intra-wound Vancomycin trials are presented. The last one is a very interesting study that can set the foundation for further studies. Excellent reports on novel techniques in physical therapy, rehabilitation, and better ways to measure patient outcomes and improve patient satisfaction with their hospital stay can be found here as well.

Overall, this edition of Surgical Technology International has more depth and knowledge than any other journal edition that I have seen in both orthopaedics, as well as surgical technologies overall, and includes randomized multicenter trials of very high quality.