

Atlas of pediatric orthopaedic surgery, third edition

Raymond T. Morrissy and Stuart L. Weinstein (editors), illustrated by Bernie Kida, 908 pages, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia 2001

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The third edition of this atlas of surgical procedures complements the last edition of the well-known textbook “Lovell and Winter’s Pediatric Orthopaedics” (fifth edition). The textbook, which was recently reviewed and praised in *Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica*, provides basic and clinical knowledge, but the atlas contains most of the surgical procedures used in pediatric orthopedics. Thus, these books should be used together. The last edition had been improved by cross references to specific procedures in the atlas in the textbook. This makes it easier to find the appropriate surgical technique when reading about the various conditions in the textbook.

In the previous editions, Raymond T. Morrissy was the sole editor and author, while in the third edition, another well-known orthopedic surgeon, Stuart L. Weinstein, has become co-editor. Thanks to their great surgical experience, the operations are concisely described and many technical details have been emphasized. They also give reasons for their choice of procedure in cases where alternatives are available. This greatly helps the reader and should improve results in clinical practice. As before, the surgical procedures have been illustrated by Bernie Kida, who again has made clear detailed drawings which make it easier to understand the text.

The atlas, divided into 7 chapters (the upper extremity, spine, pelvis and hip, femur, knee, tibia,

and foot), describes about 120 surgical procedures. Although a few of the procedures in the previous edition have been entirely rewritten, most of them are relatively unchanged. The main change since the second edition is that 17 more operations have been included. This has increased the value of the atlas because several of these are frequently performed—e.g., open reduction of supracondylar fractures, valgus osteotomies of the proximal femur, percutaneous epiphysiodesis, hemiepiphysiodesis, surgical resection of partial growth plate arrest, and rectus femoris transfer. The methods described reflect common practice in North America, which differs little from sound practice in Europe, although there is no agreement as regards the use of drains postoperatively. In this book, a drain is recommended after several operations on bones. I believe that this is not necessary, since we have seen no adverse effects from not using drains in children in our hospital.

In conclusion, the third edition of this atlas represents an updated and comprehensive presentation of most surgical procedures in common use. The book undoubtedly defends its position as one of the most valuable sources of information concerning orthopedic surgery in children.

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