Preface

The first edition of Osteoporosis: Pathophysiology and Clinical Management was edited by Eric Orwoll and Michael Bliziotes. It was a successful compilation in which one could learn the science behind clinical care by reading a chapter on the basic aspects followed by a chapter on clinical aspects. In this second edition, I have tried to keep to this same strategy for most topics in the ever-growing literature of osteoporosis. Some new chapters have been added. With her colleagues, Dr. Sharmila Majumdar has provided information on new bone imaging methods that hold great promise. Dr. Margaret Gourlay has tackled the important topic of screening for osteoporosis. We will be hearing more about screening as performance measures for osteoporosis are instituted. My colleagues, Drs. Valentina Petkov and Melissa Williams provided a new chapter on adherence to therapy, a major problem in the care of patients with osteoporosis. Finally, I took the editor’s prerogative in adding my own chapter on osteoporosis in men, despite the presence of chapters on basic and clinical aspects of androgens in bone. While clearly less at risk for fracture than women, men are living long enough to fracture; and we finally have some data upon which management can be based.

Every book suffers from the potential for being out of date by the time of publication. Getting all authors to write chapters expeditiously is challenging, and when the field moves as quickly as that of osteoporosis, the final product can be stale upon arrival. In editing the book, I have strived to make the chapters as current as possible. I want to thank three authors in particular for their timeliness. Dr. Robert Lindsay wrote his chapter on relatively short notice. Both Dr. Michael Maricic and Dr. Ann Cranney, two authors who sent in their chapters quickly, provided updated versions when there were major advancements in their fields. These authors clearly went the extra mile.

However, I need to thank all the contributors for producing quality work. In an era when time is precious and all of us are stretched, writing a chapter is not usually high on the priority list. Therefore, the tremendous work of the contributors to this volume, all recognized experts in their fields, is greatly appreciated.

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