Preface

The first critical step to treat infertile patients efficiently and successfully is to build and organize an in vitro fertilization (IVF) laboratory in the most optimal manner. Since the introduction of IVF by the late Nobel Laureate Professor Bob Edwards over 3 decades ago, indispensable developments have taken place for designing and managing the IVF units. It is well recognized that an optimal IVF unit must not only have the sufficient space and highest quality materials with resistant, smooth surfaces but also have high air quality requiring sophisticated purification/filtering system. As we have gained more experience with embryo culture, we see the development of specialized instruments and disposables designed specifically for IVF use. Today, we have plenty of choices of these different tools; however, making the appropriate decision on which ones to use is challenging.

We have prepared this textbook with the aim of providing valuable information on IVF laboratory design and the facility, as well on how to organize and manage the day-to-day operation of an IVF laboratory most efficiently. The chapters cover all aspects of laboratory organization and functioning to the utmost detail, including setup, running, preparations, data management, quality control, licensing and regulation, and troubleshooting. The authors are the most recognized experts in the field of ART who share their long experiences with the readers. This textbook is extremely useful to anyone who wants to start up a new IVF laboratory, or someone who wants to modify and improve an already existing one or just wishes to improve the efficiency and proficiency of the management.

We are grateful to Richard Lansing, executive editor, for his support and advice, and Kristopher Spring, Associate Editor and Margaret Burns, publishing manager, for their tireless efforts in reviewing and editing each of the manuscripts. Furthermore, we are thankful to our outstanding contributors for sharing their knowledge and experience. Finally, we want to acknowledge the sacrifices made by our families in allowing us to spend countless hours working late on this book.

Atlanta, GA, USA
Montreal, QC, Canada
Cleveland, OH, USA
Zsolt Peter Nagy, M.D., Ph.D.
Alex C. Varghese, Ph.D.
Ashok Agarwal, Ph.D.
Building and Managing an IVF Laboratory
A Practical Guide
Nagy, Z.P.; Varghese, A.C.; Agarwal, A. (Eds.)
2013, X, 228 p. 9 illus., 5 illus. in color., Softcover
ISBN: 978-1-4614-8365-6