Meniscal injuries are clearly the most common affliction a knee surgeon will encounter. Indeed, the diagnosis and treatment of meniscal tears are the “life-blood” of a sports medicine practice. Once regarded as a “vestigial” structure, the role of the meniscus as crucial element of knee function and health has never been more evident. With increasing longevity and active lifestyles of aging patients, the preservation of meniscal integrity has become increasingly important.

This book endeavors to enlighten the reader with recent scientific data which will assist in the timely recognition and treatment of meniscal lesions. It is my sincere hope and expectation that this book will convey to health care practitioners evidence-based “pearls” which will translate to improved patient care and meniscal preservation.

I am indebted to my authors—all thought leaders in meniscus science. Their contributions have helped create this treatise on the most recent scientific developments pertaining to meniscal function, mechanics, replacement, imaging, diagnosis, surgical repair, and rehabilitation.

I wish to thank the “forefathers” of meniscal surgery—such visionaries as Drs. Ken DeHaven, Dilworth Cannon, and Charles Henning who recognized the value of meniscal repair when contemporaries considered the meniscus as a dispensable structure.

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