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## Preface

*Fundamentals of Pediatric Surgery, Second Edition* is meant for pediatric and general surgeons, pediatric surgery fellows, surgery residents, and other advanced practitioners and intended to be a reliable source of up-to-date information regarding the everyday care of children with a surgical condition. Each chapter is written by an experienced authority in the field and addresses a specific aspect of clinical pediatric surgery, carefully edited to maintain a continuity of style and format while preserving the distinctive voice of the author. The goal is to provide practical and clinically relevant information in an accessible and straightforward presentation. The new edition features updates in every topic, many new authors, and three new associate editors. Every chapter begins with an abstract that highlights important themes and is written in a this-is-how-I-do-it narrative style that the reader ought to find familiar—more like an amiable conversation with a trusted mentor and friend rather than a dry or sterile lecture. Finally, nearly every chapter is followed by an additional comment written by the editors and intended to provide pearls, more in-depth analysis, or additional useful information.

In addition to providing a useful reference for pediatric surgeons and general surgeons in clinical practice, *Fundamentals of Pediatric Surgery, Second Edition* is also designed to be used by general surgical residents rotating in pediatric surgery and chief residents in Pediatric Surgery fellowship programs. The American Board of Surgery and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) consider experience in the clinical aspects of pediatric surgery a necessary and important aspect of the education and training of the general surgeon and most General Surgery residents are still expected to rotate on a Pediatric Surgery service. These brief rotations can be quite busy, with little time to read any of the excellent comprehensive pediatric surgery textbooks available, especially when what one really needs is a practical guide to the everyday care of the pediatric surgical patient. Enter *Fundamentals of Pediatric Surgery, Second Edition*, a concise easy-to-read textbook filled with detailed and relevant information that can help the resident care for the patient they are seeing in the clinic or in the hospital. The goal is to provide at least one reasonable and proven approach, recommended by a recognized expert, and presented in a context that includes a discussion of the underlying principles of care and essential clinical issues to be considered.

Finally, it is hoped that Pediatric Surgery fellows will find this book to be a rich and up-to-date source of pertinent information related to the actual day-to-day care of the surgical child and provide the foundation for what will be an exciting and lifelong education in the complexities of the surgical care of children. It was originally intended to be a valuable resource and study guide for preparation for the written and oral American Board of Surgery certifying examinations in Pediatric Surgery. It is our sincere hope that *Fundamentals of Pediatric Surgery, Second Edition*, designed with the more advanced practitioner in mind, will prove to be a useful and valuable complement to the many excellent pediatric surgical texts currently available.

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