The publication of this second revised edition of the practical guide on virtual colono-
scopy less than 4 years after the publication of the first edition underscores the big inter-
est for CT colonography. In the past 4 years, the promising expectations of the technique
were confirmed by several large multicenter studies obtaining very good results for col-
orectal neoplasia detection. This was possible by establishing a state-of-the-art tech-
nique of CT colonography (CTC) in combination with image interpretation performed
by experienced teams. This updated edition confirms the efforts of the international
CTC community to promote this technique as a widely accepted imaging technique for
exploring the colon for colorectal neoplasia. In the past 4 years, these efforts have been
focused on the development and fine tuning of the state-of-the-art application of CTC
in order to allow widespread implementation of a high-quality total colonic examina-
tion. All different aspects of the CTC technique are widely covered in this edition. In the
past years, it also became obvious that a structured education is mandatory in obtaining
sufficient expertise in CTC before starting the technique in a clinical practice. This
expertise will prove invaluable for CTC to become a robust technique performed on a
high scientific level by a large community of radiologists. Once this goal is achieved, it
will be possible considering reimbursement of CTC and its use as tool for population-
based screening for colorectal cancer.

We are very grateful to all authors of the first and second edition, who made both
issues a very rich resource of information on CT colonography and to the series editor
of this book, Professor Dr. A.L. Baert, who enabled this second revised edition.

Roeselare, Belgium

Philippe Lefere
Stefaan Grysepeerdt
Virtual Colonoscopy
A Practical Guide
Lefere, P.; Gryspeerdt, S. (Eds.)
2010, XII, 253 p., Hardcover
ISBN: 978-3-540-79879-8