Preface

The first publication on peripheral nerve ultrasound dates back to 1988 with Bruno Fornage’s article *Peripheral nerves of the extremities: Imaging with US* published in Radiology. Afterwards peripheral nerve ultrasound has been performed only by very few specialists around the world. During the last years, we have seen a tremendous increase of publications concerning diagnostic and interventional sonography of the peripheral nervous system, especially the technique of sonography-guided regional anesthesia, and pain therapy is getting widespread acceptance.

Especially the latter applications of sonography ask for a profound knowledge of the local topographic anatomy of peripheral nerves. The local topography often is rather complex. As peripheral nerves are small structures, typical landmarks may help to find them with sonography. The same is true for MRI, which is the second imaging modality for diagnosis of peripheral nerve disease.

For daily clinical practice, a resource, which offers side by side presentation of topographic anatomy with correlative sonograms and MR images, allows for quick recapitulation of typical regional features. This is important to succeed with peripheral nerve diagnosis and intervention. Like our old anatomy teacher always said: “doctors without knowledge of anatomy are like moles, they roam in the dark and their daily task are piles of soil!” To prevent that, we provide you with this book, which is based on our extensive experience in nerve imaging.

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