Operative General Surgery in Neonates and Infants was proposed by Dr. Takao Okamatsu in order to create educational materials for young pediatric surgeons around the world. Actually, we had already published Standard Pediatric Surgical Procedures (Medical View Co., edited by Tomoaki Taguchi and Tadashi Iwanaka) in Japanese in 2013, in order to cover all operative procedures of pediatric surgery. Following the proposal by Dr. Okamatsu, we picked up the important basic procedures from this Japanese book and asked the original authors to translate their Japanese to English. Medical View Co. (Ms. Maya Kiyosawa and Mr. Naohiro Asami) kindly permitted us to use the original figures from that book in this new English-language volume.

The present publication introduces the most up-to-date representative Japanese pediatric surgical procedures and points in pre- and postoperative management. Furthermore, Operative General Surgery in Neonates and Infants is characterized by the use of many simple illustrations to explain each procedure. We always insist that young trainees themselves draw illustrations in the operational record and encourage them by saying that “Good illustrators can become good surgeons.” We are confident that their drawing illustrations by themselves is a gold-standard shortcut to understanding operative anatomy and procedures. Therefore, Operative General Surgery in Neonates and Infants will become a standard bible for young trainees around the world, especially in developing countries.

The authors for each procedure are experts in pediatric surgery who are operating almost every day as surgeons-in-chief in university hospitals or children’s hospitals. All of them are qualified pediatric surgeons and members of the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons. They are all good clinicians as well as educators. We appreciate their efforts and contributions to Operative General Surgery in Neonates and Infants.

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