Preface

Oncoplastic surgery arose from the need to reduce the sense of mutilation resulting from the surgery, bringing new breast cancer treatment concepts based on treating the human being and not a breast with cancer, striving toward avoiding stigmatizing the patient who did not have immediate reconstruction after the amputation and providing a quick return to their social life and resumption of daily activities.

This set of techniques is part of a recent growing movement, adding oncological concepts in plastic surgery techniques, enabling multiple new approaches for breast repairing, remodeling and reconstruction, and allowing more radical surgical approaches without cosmetic loss.

The difficulty in the planning and execution of such techniques and the varying degrees of complexity of the oncoplastic approach represent a major challenge for the breast surgeon. As a result of this new technical paradigm, textbooks were published aimed to breast surgeons interested in learning the oncoplastic approach, which presented and described the main theory and techniques. Having superseded this initial phase, the present brings a new panorama, with a new readership with consolidated knowledge. A new need has therefore arisen, for a specific publication targeted toward this skilled reader.

The purpose of this book is not just to describe the techniques but also to present their indications and contraindications in real cases, with photos, drawings, illustrations, and schematics, providing the tips, pitfalls, highlights, and key points, as well as the alternative approaches, from preoperative planning, the main surgical times, the postoperative result right through to the management of complications. A comprehensive guide, but with a succinct and direct language, focusing in detail on surgical practice and increasing and refining the arsenal at the oncoplastic surgeon’s disposal in order to offer the best treatment possible for each specific patient.

The authors’ concern is to offer an unprecedented innovative tool, useful, with easy access, and understanding. This atlas aims to meet the need for an all-inclusive guide that broaches in a clear and educational manner the main clinical and technical resources available to manage the different situations encountered in practice. This will be a publication of great relevance, not only for the pioneering, but also for a book of solid reference, presenting the reproducible techniques that are part of routines used by the staff of the Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery of the European Institute of Oncology of Milan.

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