

Carol E. H. Scott-Conner
Editor



The SAGES Manual

Fundamentals
of Laparoscopy,
Thoracoscopy,
and GI Endoscopy
Second Edition



Springer

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Thoracoscopy, and GI Endoscopy

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With 311 Illustrations

With a Foreword by David W. Rattner, MD

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Foreword

SAGES (The Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons) has made resident education a priority for most of its 25-year history. In the 1990s, when there was need for additional training in minimally invasive surgery, SAGES responded by developing multiple courses for residents and fellows to fill in the gaps left by the spotty penetration of minimally invasive surgery in some training programs. SAGES resident programs have been attended by more than one thousand trainees and helped educate future surgeons to safely incorporate laparoscopic surgery into their practices. While a variety of atlases and textbooks of laparoscopic surgery had been published in the mid-1990s, none had focused on the residents' need for a daily guide that could be carried in a white coat pocket for immediate reference. In 1998, the first edition of *The SAGES Manual* was published. This pocket-sized manual was the first text specifically designed to help residents understand both the indications and techniques for laparoscopic and flexible endoscopic procedures and immediately became a "best seller." Since publication of *The SAGES Manual* seven years ago, new minimally invasive surgical techniques have been introduced, the indications for traditional minimally invasive surgical procedures have expanded and hence the time has come to update the manual.

Dr. Carol E.H. Scott-Conner has once again done a terrific job in selecting the subjects to be covered and enlisting leaders in the Society to write about areas of their own expertise. Perusing the table of contents one is struck by the number of new chapters that Dr. Scott-Conner has added. This reflects the substantial changes that have occurred in minimally invasive surgery—a field that was viewed as mature in 1998 when the original manual was published! The second edition addresses some areas that were controversial in 1998 but are now mainstream, such as laparoscopy in pregnancy and laparoscopic colectomy for cancer. The burgeoning area of laparoscopic bariatric surgery has been significantly expanded. Laparoscopic pediatric surgery is another rapidly growing area that is given significant coverage in this second edition of *The SAGES Manual*. Areas that still remain controversial, such as hand-assisted surgery and the role of robotics in minimally invasive surgery are included. Areas that probably should be considered unproven, such as laparoscopic esophageal resection and endoluminal therapies, are included so that residents can be familiar with potential future directions that minimally invasive surgery may take. In spite of these exciting developments, it is sobering to realize that chapters on avoiding complications in laparoscopic cholecystectomy are still necessary as bile duct injuries continue to occur.

The SAGES Manual is a comprehensive notebook-style reference covering basic material that all residents should master while completing surgical training. In the near future, it is likely that competence-based testing will replace the traditional multiple-choice format. High-stake examinations such as SAGES Fundamentals of Laparoscopic Surgery (FLS) will test both the fund of knowledge contained in *The SAGES Manual*, as well as the ability to apply that

knowledge to both patient scenarios and task performance. In the new millennium SAGES remains committed not only to providing the highest quality resident education, but also demonstrating that this effort promotes the competent practice of minimally invasive surgery.

David W. Rattner, MD
SAGES President 2004–2005
Boston, Massachusetts

Preface

How do you know it is time to create a second edition of a book? In the case of *The SAGES Manual*, the decision was easy. Is it by number of copies sold? Not really. True, *The SAGES Manual* has gone through multiple printings and has been translated into several languages, but success alone does not mandate the kind of comprehensive revision offered here. We created this substantially expanded and enhanced second edition because of the rapid advance of technology and its successful integration into practice and the training environment. Almost every chapter has been revised, new material has been added, and some chapters have new authors.

The most visible difference is the inclusion of a third section on thoracoscopy. Six new chapters in this section provide detailed information that will be useful to both general and cardiothoracic surgeons. The bariatric surgery section has been significantly expanded. New chapters have been added on robotic surgery and several new endoscopic procedures. If you own an old, dog-eared copy of *The SAGES Manual*, you will feel comfortable with this new edition, but you will also find much that is new.

As with the first edition, it is our hope that you will find this manual a guide and a companion, a way to keep SAGES experts with you in your practice.

Carol E.H. Scott-Conner
Iowa City, Iowa

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