BOOK REVIEW

Master Techniques in Orthopaedic Surgery: Fractures

Editor: Donald Wiss MD
Contributors: 80; Pages: 958
Publisher: Wolters Kluwer/Lippincott Williams & Wilkin. Price: US$199.27.

Trauma work is bread and butter for a general orthopaedic surgeon; sometimes it can be complex problem where initial treatment has to be safe, effective and often dramatically determines the ultimate outcome. Therefore, possess a good fracture treatment book as a reference/guide may be necessary and helpful at times.

Master Techniques in Orthopaedic Surgery in Fractures is one of those books that you would want to keep handy with you. The first edition of this book was published in 1994.

The book is divided into two parts; there are 14 chapters in Part I and 32 chapters in Part II which present upper extremity and lower extremity fractures management respectively.

There are 80 contributors in this book; all the chapters are contributed by the world’s foremost surgeons who are the authority in their respective field. The content in each and every chapter is consistently and systematically organised in smooth flow way that make reading very easy and suit our thought process. It presents the most advanced, successful surgical techniques and approaches for fractures of the upper extremity, lower extremity, pelvis, and acetabulum. The contributing authors describe their preferred techniques and approaches in step-by-step details, explain the indications and contraindications, opinion on options of fixations, identify pitfalls and potential complications, and offer pearls and tips for improving results.

The book also includes chapters on total elbow arthroplasty, revised shoulder arthroplasty, proximal humerus hemiarthroplasty, and the last two chapters evaluation and management and soft tissue coverage, and gastrocnemius and soleus rotational muscle flaps.

Another strong aspect of this book is it is thoroughly and very clearly illustrated with full-color, sequential, surgeon's-eye view intraoperative photographs, as well as very clear and well illustrated drawings by noted medical illustrators. There is also list of recent references at the end of each chapter.

The obvious lacking in this book is on the alternative treatment options on failed fracture fixations and also untreated fractures due to patients seeking treatment; conditions which frequently seen in developing countries.

Overall, I strongly recommend this book as a guide or reference book for master students and also orthopaedic surgeons involved in treating acute fractures.

Mohammad Anwar Hau Abdullah
Department of Orthopaedics,
Raja Perempuan Zainab II Hospital, Kota Bahru, Malaysia