



Minimally Invasive Surgery of the Pancreas

★★★ Score: 89

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At A Glance

This book provides a unique and comprehensive overview of minimally invasive (MI) surgical options for the treatment of pancreatic diseases. The opening chapters present the state of the art of minimally invasive (MI) pancreatic resection according to the 2016 IHPBA Conference, offer information on the safe dissemination of MI pancreatic surgical techniques, and discuss preoperative evaluations protocols and surgical planning options. The book subsequently investigates the full range of currently available minimally invasive techniques, which includes: biliary and gastric bypass, ampullectomy, central and distal pancreatectomy, laparoscopic and robotic pancreatoduodenectomy, and robotic pancreas transplantation. Combining the acknowledged expertise of the Italian school in pancreatic surgery and the contributions of many leading international experts, the book offers a valuable guide for all surgeons who perform this complex surgery, as well as for residents and fellows-in-training.

Expert Review

Reviewer: Peter Nau, MD, MS, FACS (University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics)

Description

This book covers the indications and applications for the minimally invasive approach to pancreatic pathology. Initial chapters provide a primer for laparoscopy in pancreatic surgery with later chapters addressing distinct operations.

Purpose

The purpose is to introduce the various laparoscopic techniques that can be used to address pancreatic pathology. Given the increasing prevalence of minimally invasive surgery in this field, this is a very timely addition to the literature. The authors do a commendable job of introducing each topic and describing the importance and feasibility of a laparoscopic approach.

Audience

The audience is advanced surgical residents, fellows, or newly practicing hepatobiliary surgeons. While the book describes the laparoscopic steps, it is written with the assumption that readers are comfortable with the open approach to the pathology in question. The authors' operative descriptions are concise and clear. The sections on outcomes and indications are similarly effective despite the brevity of the book.

Features

In short, this book discusses the variety of pancreatic pathology that can be addressed with a minimally invasive approach. The best aspect of the book is the way the authors succinctly introduce the topic, expand on why a minimally invasive approach is reasonable, and then provide the essential setup and operative steps to complete the operation. There is very little wasted verbiage to bog down the chapters. This strength is also a weakness, as there are not many diagrams or representative pictures corresponding to the operative descriptions.

Assessment

This is an excellent book for chief residents or hepatobiliary fellows who seek to get more comfortable with laparoscopic approaches to the pancreas. It is a unique book in its focus and, while filling a rather small niche, does so with a great deal of success.

Review Questionnaire

Range	Question	Score
1-10	Are the author's objectives met?	10
1-10	Rate the worthiness of those objectives.	10
1-5	Is this written at an appropriate level?	5
1-5	Is there significant duplication? (1=significant, 5=insignificant)	4
1-5	Are there significant omissions? (1=significant, 5=insignificant)	4
1-5	Rate the authority of the authors.	4
1-5	Are there sufficient illustrations?	3
1-5	Rate the pedagogic value of the illustrations.	5
1-5	Rate the print quality of the illustrations.	5
1-5	Are there sufficient references?	5

1-5	Rate the currency of the references.	4
1-5	Rate the pertinence of the references.	5
1-5	Rate the helpfulness of the index.	4
1-5	If important in this specialty, rate the physical appearance of the book	4
1-10	Is this a worthwhile contribution to the field?	8
1-10	If this is a 2nd or later edition, is this new edition needed?	N/A

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