Book Review

K-wiring: Principles and techniques

Editors: C Rex

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The effort made by Prof. C Rex in writing the book on “K-wiring: Principles and Techniques” is commendable. Nowadays, when internal fixation with plates and nails has taken over the center stage in the management of fractures, the author has demonstrated an extensive, accurate and effective use of K-wires, almost in every bone.

The account of history and development of K-wires, given in the beginning, is very informative and not known to many. The use of K-wire has many advantages – low cost, easy to use, relatively short learning curve, a few complications, etc. Although the use of K-wires has been reported with many serious complications, which are fortunately less common, but the incidence of the most dreaded complication of surgery, i.e., infection, is much less. The K-wires can be inserted with minimal trauma to the soft tissues and tendons and involves less extensive soft tissue dissection.

The author has shown the best use of K-wires in a wide variety of hand fractures. The principles and technique of the use of K-wires have been built upon a scientific foundation. The author has described the Safe Corridors in the finger for placement of K-wires. The safe positions in the hand have also been given to make the use of K-wires safe and precise.

Apart from fractures and dislocations, the author has used K-wires in nontraumatic conditions such as fusion of the small joints of the foot.

The strength of this book is the large database of cases and examples of the use of K-wire in almost every situation/bone.

This book can have a large readership including postgraduate students and practicing orthopedic surgeons, plastic surgeons and hand surgeons.

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