

# Supine Percutaneous Nephrolithotomy and ECIRS



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Editors

# Supine Percutaneous Nephrolithotomy and ECIRS

The New Way of Interpreting PNL

 Springer

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# Preface

*Supine percutaneous nephrolithotomy: a new way of interpreting PNL* is the culmination of 10 years' intensive work in the field of renal stone surgery. Our strongest desire was to share our extensive experience with ECIRS (Endoscopic Combined Intra Renal Surgery) in the Galdakao-modified supine Valdivia position, a revolutionary approach to percutaneous stone surgery, which we undertook with passion and interest, trying to exploit its advantages and new aspects. In order to do this extensively, we involved renowned surgical urologists, anesthesiologists, radiologists, anatomists, and scrub nurses. Thanks to their essential contribution, the present book finally provides, for the first time as far as we know, a comprehensive and multidisciplinary overview of all the issues relative to percutaneous surgery performed in the emerging supine and supine-modified positions.

The crucial concepts in ECIRS and its synergy and versatility in order to provide the best possible treatment for individual patients affected by large and/or complex urolithiasis are reflected throughout the book. Both synergy and versatility are needed in the preoperative holistic evaluation of the patient. A tailored surgical therapy can be proposed and discussed only after a thorough study of the stone features, the anatomy of the collecting system, and the patient's history, characteristics, and comorbidities. Intraoperatively, synergy is needed both among staff (urologists, anesthesiologists, nurses, radiology technicians) and technical equipment (lithotripsy energies, instruments for antegrade and retrograde access, accessories, imaging assistance); further, all the actors should be as versatile as possible, adapting the procedure to the needs of the patient. Postoperatively, thorough prevention of complications, mainly infectious, and follow-up represent another form of multi-disciplinary synergy.

All the chapters have extensive photographs taken in the operating room, drawings, radiograms, and summarizing tables, with the specific aim to be maximally didactic and to share all our experience in the field, including practical tips and tricks. We hope that this book will be a valuable resource in the field of stone surgery for those currently in training as well as for those already expert in prone percutaneous surgery. It takes into account new ways of performing this technical approach, which has been undergoing continuous improvement since the 1970s and is still riding high.

Our whole-hearted gratitude goes first of all to Professor Roberto Mario Scarpa, who has been the enlightened Chief of the Orbassano University Hospital, allowing us to discover and appreciate this surgical approach and to develop all the subsequent pertinent work. In Créteil, the merit goes to Professor Abbou, one of the pioneers of PNL in France in the early 1980s, who from an early stage acted as a visionary regarding the future role of ECIRS. He prompted his team to follow the Spanish and Italian example and encouraged us to popularize supine PNL in France.

We are also particularly grateful to Dr. Valdivia and Dr. Ibarluzea, the “fathers” of the Galdakao-modified supine Valdivia position, who generously shared their experience with us and supported us in the development of the combined percutaneous approach. Finally, thanks to all the urologists, anesthesiologists, and nurses in the Departments of Urology at the San Luigi Hospital, Orbassano, the Cottolengo Hospital, Torino, and the Henri Mondor Hospital, Créteil, for their valuable cooperation and fundamental support in the development of all the different stages of ECIRS.



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