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# **Treatment of Elbow Lesions**

## **New Aspects in Diagnosis and Surgical Techniques**

ANDREA CELLI

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Diagnosis and Surgical  
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 Springer

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Cover illustration: Leonardo da Vinci, Codice Windsor Vol. A foglio 2 verso (detail).  
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Library of Congress Control Number: 2007929133

ISBN 978-88-470-0317-0 Springer Milan Berlin Heidelberg New York  
e-ISBN 978-88-470-0591-4

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springer.com  
© Springer-Verlag Italia 2008

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Cover design: Simona Colombo, Milan, Italy  
Typesetting: C & G di Cerri e Galassi, Cremona, Italy  
Printer: Printer Trento Srl, Trento, Italy  
*Printed in Italy*

Springer-Verlag Italia S.r.l., Via Decembrio 28, I-20137 Milan, Italy

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# PREFACE

Because of the relatively low incidence of involvement efforts to enhance the diagnosis and management of elbow pathology are not common. Nonetheless, because of a rapidly expanding knowledge base, both with regard to a more refined understanding of elbow pathology, coupled with exciting and emerging approaches and options for management, it is appropriate and timely to address this deficiency in the orthopedic literature. This volume, therefore, was produced in order to provide current and relevant information with content that is drawn from a very well received symposium of the same name as this book and convened in Modena, Italy recently. As with the symposium, the specific goals of this text are to provide the most updated concepts in the management of a full spectrum of elbow pathology. The content, therefore, is comprehensive in nature, but with a focus on emerging options in the management of traumatic conditions as well as reconstructive options for the sequelae of trauma. These topics are covered in detail in the 31 chapters which comprise this text. The focus of each chapter was specifically designed to address the topic in the most timely fashion and with less of an emphasis on the historical context and more focus on current thinking. The references documenting content are intended to be efficient and focused. In addition, the popular and appropriate expectation of the orthopedic community of enhanced explanation of technique are featured in the appropriate chapters. Probably the most important aspect of the text to allow the attainment of this goal is the involvement of surgeons from the Mayo Clinic as well as the participation of world renowned international surgeons. This group was assembled to serve both as a faculty for the symposium and also to document their experience as contributors to this text.

The organization of this volume is designed to be logical and user friendly. The early chapters include basic information on an array of diagnostic topics and techniques. In this context a very important, but basic, discussion of surgical exposures is provided. A full 8 chapters deal with traumatic conditions of the elbow and 7 assess the rapidly emerging field of radial head deficiency and its management with fixation or prosthetic replacement. The consequences of elbow trauma are addressed in detail with an emphasis on the open and arthroscopic management of the stiff elbow.

Current concepts in elbow joint replacement are discussed with a focus on several design concepts as well as outcomes based on presenting diagnosis. Finally, the postoperative management including the use of continuous motion machine, braces and examination under anesthesia is discussed. Overall, therefore, the editors feel as though the goals of the symposium and the documentation of the proceedings have been well realized with the publication of this volume. It is our expectation that this textbook will provide a useful tool to the busy orthopedic surgeon to enhance the diagnosis and effective management for this difficult spectrum of elbow pathology.

In closing, it should be noted that this documentation of our current thinking on these topics has become a reality due to the drive and vision of Professor Luigi Celli and the organizational skills of his son, Andrea Celli, of the Univer-

sity of Modena, Italy. Their vision and leadership, coupled with the international contributions and a spectrum of thought processes, provides a useful and unique perspective to this joint that has heretofore deserved the dubious reputation for the challenges it poses to the orthopedic community. Hopefully, this text will, therefore, in some measure, provide insight and a successful management for this “problem joint”.

*September 2007*

*B.F. Morrey, M.D.*

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