Bobby Buka Annemarie Uliasz Karthik Krishnamurthy *Editors*

Buka's Emergencies in Dermatology



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Preface

"A thick skin is a gift from God."

-Konrad Adenauer (1876-1976), German statesman

As dermatology residents, long before we are asked to discern papulosquamous from eczematous, mentors ask the much simpler question, "dangerous" or "benign?" It seemed so rudimentary at the time, but the response to this basic query dictates every other aspect of the patient encounter to follow. How quickly to act? How varied is the differential diagnosis? What treatments to offer and which would present an acceptable risk:benefit analysis? When must we swiftly enjoin additional subspecialists? The entire algorithm of care stems from this first, most critical element: "Is this a crisis?"

Buka's Emergencies in Dermatology is designed to address this pivotal question for medical students, residents, emergency personnel, and community and attending physicians alike. We begin with an overview of critical care—how to manage patients with a severely compromised skin structure and function. Next, we focus on the pediatric population and special considerations for emergency care therein. Our remaining 14 chapters serve as a reference resource, each devoted to urgent care for the 14 classes of specific dermatologic emergency. We hope to equip readers with a more complete appreciation for the early recognition and treatment for those skin disorders that offer a grave risk of morbidity or mortality.

Thankfully, the field of dermatology offers very few critical presentations; this is precisely the reason we must endeavor to recognize these early and respond thoroughly.

New York, NY, USA

Robert L. Buka Bobby Buka, MD JD

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To Bari who showed me how to be a doctor first and a physician second.

To Bogi who taught me the periscope has two ends.

and

To Matt, my older and dearest friend.

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