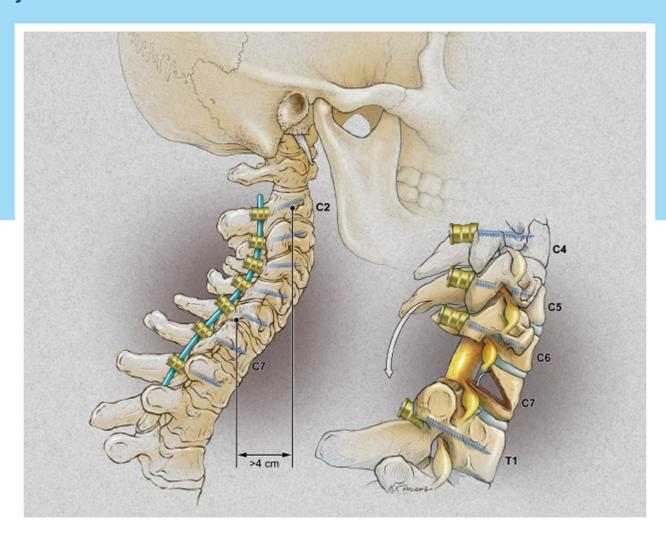
Cervical Spine Deformity Surgery

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I dedicate this work to my children Pearson, Sebastian, and Scarlett who have always provided love and balance in my life. I would also like to acknowledge my residents, fellows, and mentees who have stimulated me with their questions and impressed me with their dedication to the care of our complex patients. Finally, I want to express my tremendous gratitude to my patients who have taught me the most in caring for them and provided an example to me of true courage.

-Christopher P. Ames

I dedicate this to my wife, Mary, without whose love and constant support I would not be where I am today, as well as our 3 grown children, Brad, Grant, and Julia. They are the light of our lives, and nothing in this world would be worthwhile without their love, health, and happiness.

-K. Daniel Riew

I would like to extend my gratitude to my mentors who provided me with not only the knowledge base and principles to care for patients with spinal deformities, but also helped to ignite the passion to help move the field forward.

-Justin S. Smith

I dedicate this work to my wife, Noriko. Without her understanding to sacrifice our family time, my complex work of cervical spinal surgery would not have progressed as it has. I would also like to express appreciation for my fellows and colleagues who have provided me with important ideas and always encouraged me to continue my difficult work.

-Kuniyoshi Abumi

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Foreword

Cervical Spine Deformity Surgery, edited by Christopher Ames, Daniel Riew, Justin Smith, and Kuniyoshi Abumi, is a work of monumental proportions. The field of cervical deformity surgery is evolving and expanding rapidly. This field has lagged behind its thoracic and lumbar deformity surgery counterpart, predominantly as a result of a focus on complex thoracolumbar deformities in prior decades. Now, with more surgeons focusing on the cervical spine, the field of cervical spine deformity surgery has blossomed. The knowledge base is equally rapidly expanding. Hence, a book that incorporates the newest information regarding the fundamentals and techniques that are unique to the cervical spine is both timely and much needed.

Cervical Spine Deformity Surgery presents the relevant material in an incredibly organized manner. This book provides all one needs to know, and then some, regarding cervical spine deformity surgery—from the basics to the very complex. The book begins with discussions on anatomy, patho-etiology, imaging, sagittal balance, natural history, disability assessment, etc., followed by discussions on the wide variety of nuances associated with the decision-making process and surgical strategy determination. The book then concludes with discussions regarding complications, surgical nuances, etc.

Overall, this book is jam-packed with information and extremely well illustrated. It is up to date and perhaps even a bit futuristic, considering all the bases that have been covered. It serves as both a reference and a comprehensive primer. Of extreme importance, the editors and the authors are all at the very top of the field—representing a who's who of spine surgery, if you will. This book should be on the shelf of all providers and researchers dealing with cervical spine deformities.

I close by emphasizing the extraordinary worth of this book. It is a comprehensive and complete treatise on the subject, elegant in its presentation. Credit this, in part, to the high-quality standards associated with the publisher, Thieme. Finally, this book presents many complex concepts and techniques in a way that makes the complex seem simple. The editors and authors are to be heartily congratulated for a job very well done.

Edward C. Benzel, MD Emeritus Chairman of Neurosurgery Neurological Institute Cleveland Clinic Cleveland, Ohio, USA

Preface

Although cervical spinal deformity can have profound impacts, including pain, disability, and neurologic compromise, considerably less progress has been made in the study of these conditions compared with the more common, well-recognized thoracolumbar deformities. Early studies of cervical deformity focused on small series of patients who underwent procedures that were considered high-risk with resulting substantial morbidity. More recent advances in anesthesia and critical care, surgical techniques, and spinal instrumentation have led to a renewed interest in the surgical treatment of these often complex, high-risk deformities.

Despite the growing interest in providing surgical treatment for cervical deformity patients, there remain few resources that detail its modern clinical assessment, radiographic evaluation, and surgical treatment approaches. Much of this knowledge is experiencing a rapid evolution and is currently spread across the experts in the field with no single reference source. It is against this backdrop that this text was conceived as a concise source of current cervical deformity knowledge compiled from the literature and recognized experts in the field.

The text begins with a background on the marked health impact of cervical deformity and a primer on the clinical and radiographic assessment of these patients. Subsequent chapters detail surgical planning to address these conditions, including the range of osteotomies for correction and technique nuances from the experts. Importantly, multiple chapters address surgical and medical complications associated with these procedures and discuss risk stratification of these often-frail patients. Among the final chapters is a focused discussion of ongoing efforts to create a clinically meaningful comprehensive classification of cervical deformity.

The field of cervical deformity surgery is undergoing rapid advancements, with the ultimate goal of improving the health state and quality of life of those affected. The Editors are deeply grateful to the experts who have contributed to this text and hope that the readers find this work useful as they endeavor to care for their cervical deformity patients.

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