Mallika Tewari Editor

Surgery for Pancreatic and Periampullary Cancer

Principles and Practice



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Editor
Mallika Tewari
Chief Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary and Gastrointestinal Division
Department of Surgical Oncology
Institute of Medical Sciences
Banaras Hindu University
Varanasi, U.P., India

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Foreword

Modern science and technologies have enabled clinicians in recent years to better understand perhaps the least understood of human organs—the pancreas. Greater awareness and increased detection of pancreatic pathologies have aroused interest among basic researchers, pancreatologists, gastroenterologists, and pancreatic surgeons. Despite phenomenal advances in unraveling the mystery of pancreatic and periampullary cancers, radical and high-quality surgery by experienced surgeons remains the only curative treatment option in these aggressive cancers.

Pancreatic surgery is widely regarded as the most challenging of surgeries. The reasons are easy to understand, viz., complex anatomical location with variations that are a norm rather than an exception and a reconstruction and difficult lymphadenectomy that are often the Achilles heel dictating shortand long-term outcomes. To add to the complexity, almost all pancreatic resections involve a steep and long learning curve with experience being accumulated only after many years of dedicated practice.

On this background, the book Surgery for Pancreatic and Periampullary Cancer: Principles and Practice by Dr. Mallika Tewari is timely. Every single chapter among 28 chapters is relevant as it takes the reader—right from the novice to the experienced pancreatic surgeon—through finer and more, importantly, technical aspects of diverse pancreatic resections. Evidencebased medicine guides (and often confuses) the interested surgeon about various age-old and yet controversial aspects of pancreatic surgery, and this book does well to bring into sharp focus the various pros and cons of technical aspects of pancreatic resections. The fact that the author list boasts of some of the finest names in pancreatic surgery lends credence to the firm belief that modern-day pancreatic resections should always be a blend of experience coupled with a keen desire for higher level of evidence. More recent developments in pancreatic resections have witnessed remarkable strides in vascular resections, multi-visceral resections, and minimally invasive laparoscopic and robotic pancreatic resections. The improvement in outcomes due to multidisciplinary care and emphasis on finer perioperative aspects such as nutrition and enhanced recovery after surgery further add to the excitement where the future is only expected to be brighter than ever before.

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We have absolutely no doubt that this book by Dr. Tewari would serve as an excellent companion for anyone interested in pancreatic surgery for years to come.

June 2017

Shailesh V. Shrikhande Department of Surgical Oncology Tata Memorial Centre Mumbai, Maharashtra India

Markus W. Büchler Chirurgische Universitätsklinik Universität Heidelberg Heidelberg Germany

Preface

The handbook Surgery for Pancreatic and Periampullary Cancer: Principles and Practice takes you on an academic journey exploring a difficult disease to treat, pancreatic and periampullary cancer. It is a useful read for all surgeons and surgical trainees involved in the management of pancreatic/periampullary cancer. This handbook gives minute details of various surgical techniques as practiced by experts themselves, who are world authorities on the subject. There are nine narrative chapters that are important practically from a surgeon's point of view and will help in the optimal management of the patients.

This handbook will provide an in-depth practical knowledge and means to understand the principles in carrying out difficult operations for pancreatic/ periampullary cancer. It covers topics over a wide range of procedures and techniques, on both open and minimally invasive approach, in the form of "How I do it" chapters from reigning experts. The first five chapters on basic surgical anatomy, history, classification, imaging, and preoperative preparation are crisp and give the reader a good perspective and background before embarking on surgical techniques. The next 19 chapters, starting with the chapter on key steps of pancreaticoduodenectomy, detail various methods of pancreatic resection including venous and arterial resections and anastomotic techniques in a stepwise escalating manner. Also included are chapters on the upcoming laparoscopic and robotic approach. The last five chapters deal with postoperative complications, postoperative management, pathology reporting, and the importance of nutrition in patients undergoing such major surgical operations. The concluding chapter is on the novel technique of pancreas-preserving duodenectomy.

I was motivated to write a book on surgical techniques prevalent in pancreatic/periampullary cancer as I am fascinated by the challenges it offers. I have had the opportunity to visit some of the great institutes and hospitals across the world specializing in surgery for pancreatic cancer, and the energy, synergy, and dedication of the surgeons and their team were intoxicating. Numerous techniques, for example, of pancreatoenteric anastomosis are very intriguing, and concomitant vascular resections test the ultimate patience and expertise of the surgeon. I picked up many things, small and big, during my sojourn and wanted to compile them together in the form of a book so that this knowledge reaches out to all those committed in treating this cancer with the ultimate aim that the benefits of good meticulous surgery will actually translate in lower morbidities and quick postoperative recovery of our patients.

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I feel very delighted and grateful to all my authors who accepted my request, even though I am a novice, and have written about the way they actually perform these complex operations supplemented with excellent illustrations and operative photographs. I thank Prof. Marcus Büchler, a doyen in the field, and Prof. S. Shrikhande for writing the Foreword. Last but not the least, I thank my mentors Prof. H. S. Shukla and Prof. Adarsh Chaudhary for all their kind help and motivation in completing this book.

Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India

Mallika Tewari

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About the Editor

Mallika Tewari graduated from the Institute of Medical Sciences at Banaras Hindu University with distinction. Presently, she is Chief of the Hepato-Pancreatico-Biliary and Gastrointestinal Division and a Professor at the Department of Surgical Oncology, Institute of Medical Sciences. She has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed international and national publications.

She is the recipient of several prestigious international fellowships such as the UICC ICRETT, International Guest Scholarship of the American College of Surgeons, and European Society of Surgical Oncology traveling fellowship. She is an executive member of the World Federation of Surgical Oncology Societies (WFSOS) and Indian Association of Surgical Oncology (IASO). Further, Dr. Tewari is a reviewer for several international scientific journals and associate editor and editorial board member for the *Indian Journal of Surgery*.

Contributors

Pietro Addeo, M.D. Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery and Liver transplantation, Pôle des Pathologies Digestives, Hépatiques et de la Transplantation, Hôpital de Hautepierre-Hôpitaux Universitaires de Strasbourg, Université de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France

Takayuki Anazawa Division of Hepatobiliary-Pancreatic Surgery and Transplantation, Department of Surgery, Kyoto University Graduate School of Medicine, Kyoto, Japan

Suefumi Aosasa Department of Surgery, National Defense Medical College, Saitama, Japan

Volker Aßfalg Department of Surgery, Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technische Universität München, Munich, Germany

Chandrakanth Are Department of Surgery, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, USA

Kanza Aziz, M.D. Department of Surgery, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD, USA

Philippe Bachellier, M.D. Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery and Liver transplantation, Pôle des Pathologies Digestives, Hépatiques et de la Transplantation, Hôpital de Hautepierre-Hôpitaux Universitaires de Strasbourg, Université de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France

Claudio Bassi Department of Surgery, Pancreas Institute, University and Hospital Trust of Verona, Verona, Italy

Rishi Batra Department of Surgery, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE, USA

Yuki Bekki, M.D., Ph.D. Fukuoka City Hospital, Fukuoka, Japan

Bergthor Björnsson Department of Surgery and Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden

Rohit Chandwani, M.D., Ph.D. Hepatopancreatobiliary Service, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA

xviii Contributors

Pietro Contin Department of General, Visceral and Transplantation Surgery, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany

Department of General Surgery, University Hospital Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany

Monica M. Dua, M.D. Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA, USA

Barish H. Edil, M.D., F.A.C.S. Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery, University of Colorado, Aurora CO, USA

Aslam Ejaz, M.D., M.P.H. Department of Surgery, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD, USA

Antonio Ferrández-Izquierdo Department of Pathology, Hospital Clínico, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain

Helmut Friess Department of Surgery, Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technische Universität München, Munich, Germany

Andrew C. Gagel Department of Surgical Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA

María Carmen Gómez-Mateo Department of Pathology, Hospital Universitario Donostia, Donostia, Spain

Thilo Hackert Department of General, Visceral and Transplantation Surgery, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg Germany

Sebastian Haller Department of General, Visceral and Transplantation Surgery, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany

Satoshi Hirano, M.D., Ph.D. Department of Gastroenterological Surgery II, Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine, Sapporo, Japan

Mayumi Hoshikawa Department of Surgery, National Defense Medical College, Saitama, Japan

Norbert Hüser, M.D. Department of Surgery, Klinikum rechts der Isar, Technische Universität München, Munich, Germany

Tomohiro Iguchi, M.D., Ph.D. National Kyushu Cancer Center, Fukuoka, Japan

William R. Jarnagin, M.D. Hepatopancreatobiliary Service, Department of Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, USA

Ammar A. Javed, M.D. Department of Surgery, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD, USA

J. Kaiser Department of General Surgery, University Hospital Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany

Matthew H. G. Katz Department of Surgical Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA