Decision-Making in Orthopedic and Regional Anesthesiology

A Case-Based Approach
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Preface

As the population ages and over 30% of patients voice musculoskeletal concerns to their primary care physicians, orthopedics surges as one of the fastest growing surgical specialties. This increased demand for orthopedic procedures is coupled with an increased need for anesthesiologists familiar with the techniques required to care for this unique cohort of patients.

Providing care for orthopedic patients involves knowledge about a great diversity of anesthetic techniques. Clinicians may be faced with a world-class athlete with a torn anterior cruciate ligament one moment and a 90-year-old woman with aortic stenosis who has sustained a hip fracture the next. Further, utilizing continuous regional anesthesia and multimodal techniques, anesthesiologists are able to extend their participation in patient care into the postoperative period, facilitating both analgesia and accelerated recovery.

With this in mind, case-based presentations have proved a successful didactic approach for both clinicians and students. However, there has yet to be a case-based book dedicated to orthopedic and regional anesthesia. Decision-Making in Orthopedic and Regional Anesthesiology: A Case-Based Approach was developed to fill this knowledge gap. The book presents 34 cases authored by well-published anesthesiologists from across the United States, Canada, and Europe. Cases are as varied as our patient population, ranging from elective joint replacement to orthopedic trauma and outpatient hand surgery, and are designed to provoke questions, present options, and review the current literature.

It is our hope that this book will inspire our readers to refine their practice and facilitate patient care.

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