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978-1-107-04262-9 - Pediatric Interventional Radiology
Edited by Richard Towbin and Kevin M. Baskin
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Acknowledgements

This book, like life, has had many ups and downs and has taken more time than it should have to come to this point. In many ways it is akin to one of my loves, cycling. In order to be successful you have to work hard to learn the basics, be ready to work through the tough times when your energy and creativity are low and, no matter what, never stop pedaling until you reach the top of the mountain. Cycling also teaches that the riders will always do their best when they work with a committed and effective team. Once at the top of a mountain it is important to stop for a short time to enjoy the achievement and incredible view, enjoy the thrill of the ride down and get ready for the next climb.

In my journey I have been very fortunate to work with incredibly dedicated and talented people in all facets of Radiology. All have taught me a lot and left an imprint on me. While it is difficult to thank each person individually everyone who has been part of this adventure should feel the same pride that I do for helping to develop the field of Pediatric Intervention. This journey began at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital with the prescience and continuous support of J. Scott Dunbar, M.D. and Corning Benton, M.D. to help a young radiologist develop an idea and the daily and lifelong support of Robert Kaufman, M.D. to keep it real and moving forward. The development continued at Children’s Hospital of Michigan with the help of Tom Slovis, M.D. but took its full form at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. After a brief stop in Philadelphia the interventional program is now thriving in the capable hands of Anne Marie Cahill, M.D. Now, my personal odyssey is likely in its last phase at Phoenix Children’s Hospital. I am a very lucky man to be able to work with Drs. Robin Kaye, Carrie Schaefer and David Aria who make it fun and educational to come to work every day. I do not know what I would do without their friendship. During this incredible journey there have been numerous talented fellows, all of whom I owe a debt of gratitude to for their commitment and tireless work and willingness to teach me. Over the past several decades there has been one individual, Robin Kaye, M.D., who has been there for almost the entire time. Robin’s contributions to Pediatric Interventional Radiology and our practices have been so significant that it is impossible to remember where the ideas came from and how it all happened. Wonderfully, it just did.

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The book is dedicated to the memory of my mother, Sue, my father Gene and my terrific children Alex and Emily and their respective spouses Meredith and Michael and my grandchildren Ross, Philip, and Anna.

Richard Towbin, M.D.

This book has been, for both Rich and myself, a labor of love and friendship. Rich conceived the need for this text early on, recognizing that the care of children who require image-guided interventions constitutes its own domain within the continuum of medical practice, and that achieving best practices requires thoughtful application of foundational principles that differ from other disciplines within pediatric care and from similar practices in the care of adult patients. I joined him in this quest more than 15 years ago, and have been inspired by him continually over the ensuing time to give all within our power to deliver a message that is accessible, correct, and useful. I am pleased that we release this work to a community that is growing and shares our passion for the care of children, and look forward to the achievements of coming generations as they build on the foundation of the experiences expressed here and echoed elsewhere among our respected colleagues.

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Kevin M. Baskin, M.D.