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978-1-108-45028-7 — The Emergency Medicine Trauma Handbook
Edited by Alex Koyfman , Brit Long
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Edited by

Alex Koyfman

UT Southwestern Department of Emergency Medicine

Brit Long

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Preface

Student, you do not study to pass the test. You study to prepare for the day when you are the only thing between a patient and the grave.

– *Mark Reid*

Next to creating a life, the finest thing a man can do is save one.

– *Abraham Lincoln*

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

– *Mahatma Gandhi*

One of the major causes of death worldwide is trauma. Many of these patients are managed in the emergency department (ED). Emergency clinicians are masters of evaluating and managing life-threatening diseases in the chaotic setting of the ED. From the first contact of the injured patient, emergency clinicians play a vital role in their assessment and treatment.

Though trauma is often considered “the bread and butter” of emergency medicine, several conditions associated with trauma can be challenging, as patients can be at death’s door upon initial presentation. If patients do not receive timely, quality care, they may die. Knowledge of these conditions is imperative to ensuring we optimally care for trauma patients, whether they arrive by emergency medical services with “lights and sirens,” they are dropped off at the door, or they simply walk in to the ED.

This text, *The Emergency Medicine Trauma Handbook*, presents a focused breakdown of topics in trauma, with the goal to provide emergency physicians, residents, medical students, nurses, and other healthcare workers vital information for the evaluation and management of the patient with trauma, whether minor or life-threatening.

We thank all of the authors involved in the construction of this book, and we greatly appreciate the assistance of the staff at Cambridge University Press. We also extend our gratitude to our families for their amazing support and patience during the writing and editing phases. We hope this book improves your clinical knowledge and practice, and thank you for reading!

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