

**BOOK REVIEW: CAIETE DE TRAUMATOLOGIE OSTEOARTICULARĂ SPECIALĂ.
VOL. IX GENUNCHIUL [TEXTBOOK OF SPECIAL OSTEO-ARTICULAR TRAUMA.
VOL. IX- THE KNEE] - BY NICOLAE GORUN**

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Professor Nicolae Gorun, PhD and member of the Romanian Academy, presented his Textbook of Special Osteoarticular Trauma, vol. IX, the Knee during the SOTO Conference (The Oltenian Society of Trauma and Orthopedics) with international participation, that took place in October in Caracal. The book was printed in high graphic conditions by the “Curtea Veche” Publishing House, Bucharest.

This current volume is conceived in the spirit of orthopedic surgery textbooks, offering the reader not only elements of clinical practice and surgical procedures, but also anatomical and physiological data as well as surgical approaches. The author’s personal experience, reflected in images and statistics are highlighting the undeniable value of this paper.

The knee pathology remains an important and difficult chapter of orthopedics. In order to study it a solid and harmonious anatomical, physiological and surgical knowledge is required.

This monograph consists of 793 pages, organized in 10 chapters, backed by explicative illustrations and high quality radiographs.

Chapter I addresses the descriptive and topographic anatomy of the knee, describing in great detail the knee

joint: the femoral condyles, the tibial plateau, the patella and extensor mechanism, the musculo-aponeurotic planes, the vascular and nerve supply. The functional anatomy is also addressed, studying the stability of knee, the bio-mechanics of the femuro-patellar and femuro-tibial joints, as well as the static and dynamic elements of the knee.

Chapter II presents the clinical and radiological examination of the normal knee, clearly explaining the clinical examination of the knee, its movements, its mobility elements as well as the landmarks that need to be followed. The measurements made around the knee are grouped based on the well known bony landmarks. The radiological examination of the knee includes antero-posterior and lateral views, both weight- and non-weight bearing.

Chapter III addresses the clinical and radiological examination of the injured knee, describing the history taking, the subjective and objective examination, the abnormal and limited movements of the knee with their specific tests and measurements. The imaging examination are detailed, revealing the role of arthroscopy, scintigraphy, CT and MRI scans.

Chapter IV studies the surgical approaches to the knee, describing the anterior, antero-lateral, Langenbeck para-patellar, lateral and posterior approaches, for each of these the specific indications being described, surgical technique in detail, with their associated risks and incidents. A special attention is paid to the arthroscopy, describing the main and accessory portals that enable a minimally invasive procedure.

Chapter V is dedicated to the fractures around the knee, detailing the distal femoral, patellar and proximal tibial and peroneal fractures. It integrates aspects related to the history of the condition, pathomorphology, the classification and treatment of these lesions. The AO Classification, very well documented and clinically relevant is not missing either. With regards to the treatment the author describes the conservative treatment (plaster immobilization, skeletal traction) as well as the surgical treatment.

Highly important is the explanation of the LISS plate osteosynthesis, using the minimally invasive approach (MIPPO). Cases from the author's personal archive are presented. The patellar fractures are presented in great detail, with the description of both the classical and the particular clinical forms, as well as the various types of osteosynthesis. The proximal tibia fractures are presented in all their complexity, whilst the AO and Schatzker classifications are also presented. The treatment is thoroughly described, with the highlighting of the potential complications.

Chapter VI describes the knee dislocations, detailing the general aspects, pathology, classifications, clinical examination, diagnosis, the means of treatment and the complications. The patellar dislocations are an important sub-chapter, integrating elements of pathomorphology, classification, modern treatment, including the MPFL technique, while classical procedures such as Fèvre-Dupuis are also mentioned. Tibio-peroneal dislocations are studied separately, presenting the clinical examinations and treatment.

Chapter VII includes notions regarding articular and periarticular contusions. Such aspects that are less presented in the Romanian literature are thoroughly described in this paper. Elements of pathomorphology, classification, evolution and treatment are presented, while an important sub-chapter covers the author's 51 years of personal experience in the surgical treatment of knee contusions, illustrated by more than 130 treated cases.

Chapter VIII addresses the ligament and meniscal injuries, describing how these were dealt with throughout the time, describing the pathomorphology, classification, the clinical and radiological examinations and their treatment. The author also presents a dedicated evaluation system. The conservative and surgical management are well detailed, describing both the classical and the modern treatment.

Chapter IX describes the articular wounds, with a good clinical and imaging documentation. The description

of the means of treatment with relevant examples taken from the author's personal archive is highly important.

Chapter X includes the injury of the extensor mechanism, assessing the quadriceps tendon injuries, the patellar retinacula and tendon injuries. Data regarding their treatment, based on the author's personal, extensive experience are presented.

The monograph concludes with an extensive bibliography comprehending almost 900 titles from the Romanian and international literature, including some of the author's.

The personal experience is based on cases treated along time, accompanied by high quality radiological images.

Volume IX of the series "Textbook of Special Osteo-Articular Trauma" has 3 essential qualities, with which prof. Nicolae Gorun has already accustomed us: it is fluently written, it is richly illustrated and is based upon a vast personal experience, prowessly accumulated, as illustrated by the solved cases.

Reading this book we note the high quality graphics and the impeccable images, the up-to-date knowledge regarding the knee pathology, aspects that are making it a welcome and useful resource in the medical practice.

This book is a novelty in Romanian orthopedic literature, being also a reference document and a synthesis of the vast theoretical and practical experience. The careful systematization of the material as well as the richness of the information provided, filtered through this accomplished author's personal experience are highlighting again the contribution of the Romanian school of orthopedics to the development of this field.

I consider this monograph of Academician Professor Dr. Nicolae Gorun, creator of medical orthopedic school, as being highly valuable, bringing a remarkable contribution to the management of the knee injuries and offering a vast database for specialists.

Gheorghe Tomoaia