

MEDICAL RADIOLOGY

Diagnostic Imaging

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MRI and CT of the Female Pelvis

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With 312 Figures in 693 Separate Illustrations, 27 in Color and 25 Tables

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Foreword

Cross-sectional imaging methods such as ultrasound, computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging have a different and specific role in diagnostic and interventional imaging of the female pelvis.

Continuing technical progress in CT and MRI explains the need for a volume dedicated to these modalities in our series, Medical Radiology -- Diagnostic Imaging.

This volume offers a very comprehensive but detailed up-to-date review of our current knowledge in the field. The very readable text is complemented by numerous superb illustrations.

I am very much indebted to the editors of this book: Professor Bernd Hamm and Dr. Rosemarie Forstner, both internationally recognized experts in modern radiological imaging of the female pelvis who have lectured and published widely on the topic. Together, they developed the concept of this volume and judiciously selected the various authors of individual chapters on the basis of their outstanding personal knowledge in specific pathological disorders.

I would like to thank and congratulate most sincerely the editors and authors for their superb efforts which have resulted in this excellent work.

This book will be of great value to radiologists, gynecologists and obstetricians. I am also confident that it will meet with the same success among readers as the previous volumes published in this series.

Leuven

ALBERT L. BAERT

Preface

Imaging plays an ever increasing role in the diagnostic evaluation of women with gynecologic disease. While ultrasonography comes to mind first, computed tomography and, of course, magnetic resonance imaging definitely contribute important information to proper diagnosis and therapeutic decision-making. The focus of this book is on diagnostic imaging of the female pelvis using CT and MRI. We deliberately excluded ultrasonography since ample literature is already available on the subject. Other reasons for focusing on CT and MRI of the female pelvis are the different roles these two diagnostic tools play in different indications and the dramatic technical advances both modalities have seen in recent years.

This book is intended to provide the reader with a comprehensive review of the applications of CT and MRI in gynecology. While it is primarily intended for radiologists, both in training and in daily practice, it also addresses gynecologists and obstetricians. Each author has written their contribution according to their own “how-I-do-it” approaches. It is not meant to be encyclopedic, but rather to provide the reader with the current, up-to-date approaches in clinical practice.

With this practical application in mind, we arranged the chapters mainly according to the different disorders of the female pelvis and not with regard to technical aspects of the imaging modalities or strictly anatomic considerations. The main chapters dealing with the different disorders are preceded by an interesting presentation of a new interpretation of the anatomy of the female pelvis and a general introduction to state-of-the-art CT and MRI techniques.

Besides presenting a kind of “cookbook” with tips on practical imaging strategies and protocols, we aim to provide clear guidelines for indications and procedures, including a description of important differential diagnoses and possible pitfalls of both imaging modalities.

In the course of working on this book, we also came to realize how difficult it may be to achieve timely publication of what constitutes the state of the art in this field. The reader should therefore be aware that what the authors described as state-of-the-art while writing their chapters may already have become outdated by new insights at the time the book finally appears.

All of the co-authors have provided excellent contributions, representing their broad experience and the current clinical applications in their own practices. Without their contributions, this book would not have been possible, and we would like to express our deep-felt gratitude to all of them.

We also wish to thank the co-workers of Springer-Verlag for their cooperation in preparing this book.

It is our hope that this book will prove useful to all our colleagues interested in CT and MRI of the female pelvis and that our patients may benefit from an optimal use of these diagnostic tools.

Berlin
Salzburg

BERND HAMM
ROSEMARIE FORSTNER

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