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In the last decades, the Romanian surgery has undergone significant changes due to the scientific and technical progress of the current medicine.

The complex methods of diagnosis and the advances in molecular biology have led to the understanding of at ultrastructural pathophysiological processes, which allow to modern medicine, the correct and targeted surgical approach of the disease, as well as the adjustment of the surgical procedure to the pathophysiology of the disease.

With this new concepts and the technical possibilities of the modern anesthesia and intensive care, the surgeons approached boldly intractable diseases, which finally led to reconsideration of limited therapeutic protocols, until recently labeled as “above the possibilities of surgical treatment”.

As a consequence, the surgery has become more complex, more difficult, but safe, so that today few surgical procedures have an accepted mortality greater than 5%. One of the most interesting effects of current scientific progress in the field of “general surgery” is the appearance of surgical “subspecialties” considered as “overspecialties”, covering important areas such as esophagus surgery, hepato-bilio-pancreatic surgery, colorectal surgery, bariatric surgery.

Also, the development of miniinvasive, laparoscopic, endoscopic and robotic surgery, resulted in decreased postoperative morbidity, faster recovery and social reintegration of the patients and, of course, the increasing the performance of the surgical procedure in the benefit of both the patient and the surgeon.

Another remarkable aspect in contemporary surgery is the appearance and the development of oncological surgery with undoubted value in cancer therapy as a necessity imposed by the several researches conducted in the field of tumor pathology.

Also, organ transplantation surgery has opened new therapeutic perspectives for patients with end-stage diseases in Romania, and is a revolutionary step that was necessary for the progress of Romanian school of surgery and at the same time imposed by the progress of current medicine worldwide.

A modern trend in the general surgery, is the interdisciplinary approach required by the complexity of surgical procedure, along with radiologists, urologists, plastic and vascular surgeons, pathologists, geneticists, immunologist, etc.

The benefit of the patient and a successful operation are the main goals.

This fact suggests the need for an integrated vision on surgical treatment, but at the same time maintaining the general surgery as an integrative basic specialty of all subspecialties derived from it.

The elaboration of a surgical textbook is a debt of honor for the author as well as for the Romanian surgical school members, considering the educational impact on the future generations of physicians who wants to practice this noble specialty.

It was a difficult task, no doubt, but it was accomplished with great responsibility by prestigious Romanian surgeons starting from the last century, such as Nicolae Hortolomei Ion Turai, Theodor Burghele, Eugen Proca, Nicolae Angelescu.

A textbook of surgery is primarily a mirror of the current Romanian surgery and the author had the privilege to collaborate with some of the most prestigious specialists in all fields of surgery, in developing this work.

The "Textbook of General Surgery" is part of a 10-volume series, each representing a specialized surgery.

The meaning of a textbook is primarily educational, therefore, the book addresses to a broad public reader: residents, attending surgeons, medical students and to all those who want to update their knowledge in general surgery.

Designed in two parts, A and B, the "Textbook of General Surgery" has been developed with the participation of professors and prestigious surgeons, and for many of them, the chapters are prepared as a testimony for a lifetime work.

The editor is sharing, together with the authors, a sense of fulfilled duty in what is proudly called Romanian school of surgery.

The work of coordination, not easy, it was a nice opportunity for the author to meet more closely the achievements of his colleagues all across the country, their accomplishments deserving full consideration.

Both for editor and authors, there was a chance to collaborate with the Romanian Academy Publishing House, whose recognized prestige was an impulse for hard and quality work, for transcription into words the experience of surgical teaching staff and valuable surgeons for current and future generations of doctors.

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