A Colour Atlas of
Pediatric Laparoscopic Surgery

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dedicated

to

our tiny, little patients who taught us-

to do the right thing, at the right time, in the right way;

to do some things better than they were ever done before;

to eliminate errors;

to know both the sides of the problem;

to be dexterous,

to be an example;

to work for the love of work;

to anticipate requirements;

to develop resources;

to recognize no impediments;

to master circumstances;

to act from reason rather than rule;

to be satisfied with nothing short of perfection and excellence.

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Foreword


Thom E Lobe

It is an honor to be asked to write an introduction to such an important project as this is. And, I do it with great pleasure, as there are few things dearer to me than to further world-wide knowledge and interest in pediatric endosurgery.

The concept, a pictorial representation of many of our simple and more advanced pediatric endoscopic surgical cases provides the viewer with a rare glimpse into our world, as shown by many experts from around the globe. With this project the novice and experienced pediatric surgeon, alike, can enhance their exposure to cases performed by experts in the field.

This project has been carried out with a vision toward the bright future of endoscopic surgery in children. It wasn't so very long ago that we, those of us who saw the many benefits of laparoscopy and thoracoscopy in children were ridiculed and labeled dabblers and gadgeteers. Now, laparoscopic and thoracoscopic procedures in children are commonplace and performed world-wide. For those of us who saw the many benefits of performing endoscopic surgery in children, including: less pain, a better postoperative appearance and quicker return to unrestricted activities, we are gratified to see that we were onto a good thing.

I know that you will enjoy this work, and will be able to use the contents herein to continue to benefit children around the world.

Thom E Lobe MD
Memphis, TN
USA
November 26, 2002

From the Editors' Desk

Department of Pediatric Surgery at BYL Nair Hospital, Mumbai started its sojourn in laparoscopy in June 2000 It has been well over three years now and the MAS has become a major part of our activity in Nair Hospital. Our beginning was humble, but we were committed to make the things happen. What started with small diagnostic laparoscopies in school going children has now led us to therapeutic MAS in newborns. There were several hurdles—administrative delays, omnipresent resource crunch, limited theatre slots and ever increasing waiting lists. There were not many teachers around, but Prof Thom E Lobe from Memphis was our long distance "Guru." We always looked upto Prof TE Udwadia from Mumbai as "Father of Laparoscopic Surgery In India" and C Palanivelu from Coimbatore was our eternal source of inspiration. Books and periodicals from adult laparoscopy also helped us a lot. With each passing day two things happened—our experience and conviction in endosurgery increased. Indications for endosurgery in children widened and the age at the time of procedure became less and less. Our anesthesiologists and we are no more hesitant to undertake MAS even in newborns.

At this juncture we decided to share our experience in the form of an ATLAS with relevant text with fellow surgeons in our country and overseas. We are well aware of our learning curve and limitations. We have not yet done all the procedures. Therefore we decided to compile and edit the contributions from several other fellow paediatric laparoscopic surgeons from all over the world along with our own experience. We are extremely grateful to—Thom Lobe (USA), Hock Tan (Australia), Pascal De Lagausie (France), Martin Koyle (USA), Akira Satomi (Japan), Jan-Stephane Valla (Italy), Haluk Guvenc (Turkey), George Holcomb (III) (USA), Felix Schier (Germany) and Ralph Cohen (Australia)—who not only sent beautiful images of their work but also magnanimously permitted us to put them into a publication.

This ATLAS is oriented towards surgeons who want to develop their skills in endoscopic surgery, who may be settled in distant corners of the country and who do not have a proximate guide to train them in finer aspects of endosurgery.

We must put on records our heartfelt thanks to Prof Thom E Lobe who constantly supported us in this endeavor and finally penned down a wonderful *foreword*. Our sincere thanks to Mr Jitendar Vij and Mr RK Yadav from Jaypee Brothers Medical Publisher (P) Ltd who undertook the onerous task of printing this book in such a lucid manner.

Fellow colleagues, this is certainly not the last word in Pediatric laparoscopic surgery. This is just the beginning, Minimal Access Surgery in children has come to stay. It is upto us to accept, assimilate and adapt to its challenges.

"A battalion of army can be resisted but not an idea whose time has come……."

Sanjay Oak
Sandesh Parelkar
Prakash Agarwal

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