S. Tashiro, H. Miyake (Eds.)

Operation Atlas of Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery
Collected Case Studies

With 584 Figures, Including 133 in Color

Springer
Foreword

Professor Seiki Tashiro (Professor and Director of Digestive Surgery, The University of Tokushima School of Medicine) has published this remarkable book, “Operation Atlas of Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgery: Collected Case Studies.” His work has been supported and assisted proactively by the co-editor, Assistant Professor Hidenori Miyake.

As an active member of the Japanese Society of Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery, Professor Tashiro is well known for being one of the most energetic surgeons in his field, as well as for his gentle nature.

He has made it clear that his outlook is to always consider how to accurately resect cancer in the hepatobiliary-pancreatic area and to take full account of both standard procedures and those most suitable for each patient in order to achieve the best surgical results as safely as possible.

About 30 years ago, when still in his mid-thirties, he was already recognized as one of the most skilled surgeons while working as an associate professor in the First Department of Surgery at Kumamoto University School of Medicine in Kyushu.

He built upon his achievements and distinguished himself in the field of hepatic surgery, which was considered to be one of the most difficult at that time. Later, he became Professor and Director of Digestive Surgery at The University of Tokushima School of Medicine.

One of the most valuable aspects of this book is that complex surgical procedures are illustrated in detail, providing instruction akin to watching the actual operations.

Particularly in the section on right anterior segmentectomy and posterior superior segmentectomy preserving the right inferior hepatic vein, the tricky question of the real-world feasibility of such operations is tackled; however, Professor Tashiro demonstrates exactly how to carry out these procedures successfully.

The value of this book lies in the fact that Professor Tashiro introduces actual cases and simulates surgical procedures that would be appropriate for each patient, then provides illustrations of actual operations. For taking such a unique approach, he deserves our plaudits.

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Preface

It is said that in the twenty-first century, medicine eventually will be tailored to suit the individual patient. Moreover, although procedures based on the degree to which cancer has spread are required in operations to treat cancer of the digestive system, they must be adapted to suit the individual patient’s sex, physique, amount of body fat, and other variables.

Although many operation atlases have been written, they describe only fundamental, systematic procedures. For example, they advocate right hepatic lobectomy for liver cancer, pancreateoduodenectomy for cancer of the head of the pancreas, and so on, ignoring factors in the individual patient. However, such details are very important to a surgeon performing an operation.

Therefore, I wanted to publish an operation atlas in which, based on my experience, I would give detailed explanations of operations and comment on their results. Because there are many operation atlases in Japanese, I decided to create one in English. After this book has been presented, I hope to receive criticisms from doctors around the world about the operations that my colleagues and I have performed.

Almost all the cases (approximately 80%) discussed in this atlas were operations for advanced cancer. At present, even if the cancer is advanced, a remarkably effective operation is possible if the techniques of vascular surgery and transplant surgery are fully utilized. Therefore, establishing a postoperative auxiliary treatment and preventing recurrence are the most important means of increasing the success of an operation.

When I consulted with Professor Tadahiro Takada in the Department of Surgery at Teikyo University School of Medicine about producing an English version of my original, Japanese-language operation atlas, he said that it should be done to the same high quality as the original. He thus introduced me to Springer-Verlag, which has published this atlas, for which I am grateful.

Chapters 11, 12, and 13 describe operations that I performed in the Kumamoto University Hospital, where I was working previously, and I am thankful to Dr. Tatsuya Tsuji, Assistant Professor of Kumamoto University School of Medicine, who provided data for them.

Ninety percent of the operations discussed in the atlas were recorded on video, and I plan to edit that material and release about 15 minutes of it on DVD at a later time.

I am thankful to Mr. Leon Sakuma, who drew all of the operative illustrations; to Mr. Kiyotaka Oshima, who shot the video of the operations; and to our staff members, who cooperated in the making of this operation atlas.

I dedicate this book to my family—Midori, Junji, Aki, Seiji, and Toby—who gave me their cooperation and allowed me the freedom to practice it.

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Medical Illustrator: Leon Sakuma
Kayoko Kita was born in Tokushima, Japan, on May 18, 1962. She entered the Department of History of Sophia University, Tokyo, in April 1981 after graduating from her local high school. While in university, she studied abroad at Kings College London for one year. Upon graduating, she worked at the Bank of Credit and Commerce International for five years. In October of 1990 she returned to Tokushima and became Managing Director of her father’s company, Kita Machine Industries.

In January of 1995 she complained of anal bleeding and abdominal pain. She was admitted to our clinic on May 22, 1995, because of rectal cancer with multiple liver metastases (H3).

When she learned that she had cancer, she accepted it but fought bravely against it, knowing that her operation could fail. She survived for seven years after surgery, during which time she did a wonderful job as Executive Director of Kita Machine Industries and enjoyed traveling abroad several times a year.

Ms. Kita was a very gentle and thoughtful person who made friends easily; she became close friends with members of the medical staff and also with my family. One day some elderly patients who had been hospitalized told her they missed their pets. On hearing of their loneliness, she proposed that we have a place in our hospital where patients could be reunited with pets. There is now an air-conditioned pet meeting house in the hospital, made possible by a generous donation from Ms. Kita.

It has been about a year since Ms. Kita passed away. Her parents believe that if she were alive she would be doing great things to help others, and they have made a large contribution to the hospital in her memory. It will be used to buy books for the patients’ library and will be known as the Kita Audio Library of Tokushima University Hospital.

It is doubtful that anyone who knew Kayoko Kita could forget her. For her courage, I have great respect and gratitude, and I offer her my prayers.

Seiki Tashiro
July 27, 2003