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## Preface

We are pleased to present the First edition of *Nasal Polyposis* compiled of contributions from world renowned international experts on a myriad of etiologic and therapeutic aspects of this complex disorder. While nasal polyposis (NP) represents the most apparent manifestation of CRS and it is standard to categorize CRS regarding presence or absence of NP, NP is a diverse disorder with multiple causes and triggers.

We have organized this book in the first section to reflect the history, epidemiology, and inflammatory characteristics, followed by tools for diagnosis – pathology and radiology. While some purported CRS causes such as biofilms, fungi, and superantigens are not confined to NP, they nevertheless may contribute to inflammation in NP and these and other etiologic topics are addressed by experts in the field in the following section. Fungal cause of CRS inflammation is controversial and we present two chapters on this reflecting two points of view.

Other disorders are known for their association with NP and include association with asthma and lower airway disorders, systemic vasculitis syndromes, and cystic fibrosis. A chapter is also devoted to the differential diagnosis of NP in children and preceeds special aspects of NP evaluation including olfaction and nitric oxide assessment.

The second half of this book is devoted to therapeutic approaches to NP. The medical therapies of steroids, antibiotics, antifungals, and aspirin desensitization are each addressed in their own chapter. The treatment of NP has been referred to as sandwich therapy by my friend and a contributor, Wytse Fokkens MD, PhD. This reflects the need for medical therapy before and after the surgical therapy which is sandwiched between.

From the first chapter of this book we know that surgical therapy for NP dates back at least to the fifth century BCE, and Hippocrates. The last section of this book returns to surgical methods, including endoscopic sinus surgery, nasalization, aggressive sinus marsupialization, and the modified Lothrop procedure.

Despite medical interventions and the most brilliant surgery, every rhinologist and every expert has patients with recalcitrant or rapidly recurrent disease. There is still much to understand in the management of this complex and diverse disorder. We hope this book will allow you to be the best practioner possible in the care of your patient with NP.

This book would not have been possible without our outstanding contributors. Our two associate editors Harshita Pant MD, PhD now in Adelaide, Australia and Brad Otto, now at Ohio State University, USA were tireless in editing and smoothing

translations across these many chapters. This book would not have been possible without them and we thank them wholeheartedly.

Around the globe we pursue a common goal – better care and understanding of our patients' nasal polyposis. We may have different opinions on cause and management, but that is true in any field in which causes and best management are still not known. I hope you find the multiple viewpoints a stimulant to questioning and continuing research as well as a guide and help in investigation, categorization, and treatment of nasal polyposis.

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