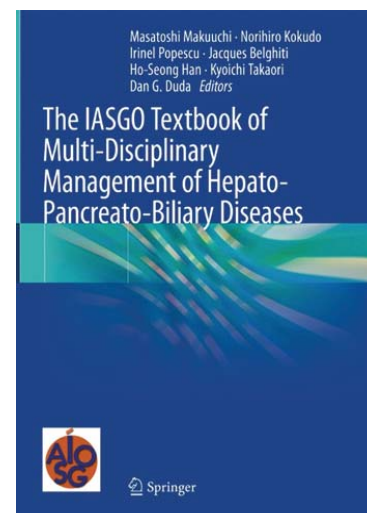


The IASGO Textbook of Multi-Disciplinary Management of Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Diseases

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It is a great pleasure to present to the readers of *Chirurgia Journal* the textbook recently published (May 2022) by the prestigious Springer Publishing House, titled "The IASGO Textbook of Multi-Disciplinary Management of Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Diseases", with wide international authorship and edited by Prof. M. Makuuchi, outstanding personality in the field of liver surgery, liver transplantation and the current president of the International Association of Surgeons, Gastroenterologists, and Oncologists (IASGO).

In addition, among the six associate editors of the world's medical elite (N. Kokudo, J. Belghiti, Ho-Seong Han, K. Takaori, Dan C. Duda) is also prof. Irinel Popescu, a prominent representative of modern hepatobiliopancreatic surgery and promoter of liver transplantation in Romania. The textbook comprises 70 chapters totaling 540 pages and was written by 175 specialists, 18 of them (mostly from the Fundeni Clinical Institute) participated in the writing of 9 chapters.

As the first textbook of IASGO, this is a tribute to Prof. Nikolaus Lygidakis, founding father of the IASGO in Amsterdam in 1988.

As noted by Prof. H Bismuth in the preface, at the time of the establishment of IASGO, prof. Lygidakis had a dream, namely, to reunite, through congresses, physicians from all over the world, experts and nonexperts, academics and non-academic, young physicians in training to exchange knowledge in the field of gastrointestinal diseases and which would include surgeons, gastroenterologists, and oncologists. Currently, this visionary project of prof. N. Lygidakis has materialized in what is today

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IASGO, that is, a unique, global, well-structured organization with thousands of members from various specialties, with annual congresses in many countries and advanced postgraduate training courses.

The textbook has an atypical character because, the limitation of pagination, made the 70 chapters concise without affecting the rich and up-to-date information quantity.

The chapters on preoperative imaging in hepatobiliarypancreatic pathology are endoscopic ultrasound, computed tomography (CT) examination, magnetic resonance elastography (MRE) for the evaluation of liver fibrosis and positronic emission tomography (PET) associated with a radiotracer (PET-FDG).

The liver is explored in 13 chapters starting with the surgical anatomy and the complex functions of this organ, the treatment of benign diseases (hemangiomas, adenomas, etc.) and malignant (hepatocellular carcinoma, CHC), the use of radiotherapy alone or in combination with other therapies in CHC. The intra-operative imaging techniques in liver surgery are also analyzed, as well as the various techniques of liver resection (LR) such as the anatomical guided ultrasound, by the Takasaki glissonian approach, laparoscopic segmental/ sub-segmentectomies, resections with preservation of the hepatic parenchyma (parenchymal sparing) in the primary or secondary tumors, the liver hanging maneuver (Belghiti) described by the author himself and which, is always current, having a wide use in various types of LR and liver transplant (TH) using both classical and minimally invasive surgery. There is a chapter on the ligation process of the portal vein associated with a hepatic partition (in situ splitting) within a serial LR (ALPPS, Associating Liver Partition and Portal Vein Ligation) with various variants that allow the drastic reduction of the initial morbidity and mortality and the rapid hypertrophy (up to 80%) of the future outstanding liver, thus avoiding a postoperative liver failure in the extended RH, but also the performance of some initially labeled RH as unresectable.

Most chapters (25) are devoted to the

pancreas, starting with the surgical anatomy and continuing with the artery first approach in the cephalic duodenopancreatectomy (DP), but also in the distal pancreatectomy, DP with the resection of the portal vein by mesenteric route (Nakao) considered as the first technique of “artery first”, DP with resection of the hepatic artery, splenic artery or mesenteric vessels (splenoportal axis and superior mesenteric artery) with their reconstruction in locally advanced cancers (Bachellier). There are chapters treating robotic DP, total DP, distal pancreatectomy with spleen preservation or associated with celiac trunk involvement and pancreatic (autologous/ allogeneic) cell transplantation.

The intra- and extrahepatic biliary tree has 11 chapters starting with the surgical anatomy and its physiology and continuing with the preinvasive intraductal biliary neoplasms, the pathology of biliary cancers, recent data in the chemotherapy and molecular therapy targeted in cholangiocarcinomas, benign biliary diseases, endoscopic biliary drainage and ending with major RH in perihilar biliary cancers, surgical treatment of perihilar cholangiocarcinoma and hepatobiliary trauma.

Liver transplant (LT) is discussed in 8 chapters of which 5 are authored by groups from the Fundeni Clinical Institute, analyzing: the indications of LT in adults and in acute liver failure, the harvest of the graft from the deceased and living donor, LT for colonic and neuroendocrine metastases, LT domino as well as the technical variants of LT (split, double graft, auxiliary).

Undoubtedly, the reader will be interested in other chapters such as hepatopancreaticoduodenectomy (HPD) for bile tract cancers, mucinous neoplasms, or ultrasound biopsy in pancreatic tumors.

This textbook certainly offers not only a remarkable overview of current techniques but also of future directions in the multidisciplinary treatment of hepatobiliarypancreatic disorders will certainly inspire the new generations of physicians in the spirit of this international organization.