



Preface  
Advances in spine surgery



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The current issue of the *Orthopedic Clinics of North America* is dedicated to advances and innovations in the field of spinal surgery. A series of articles has been assembled to cover recent advances in the diagnosis and surgical management of common and complex spinal disorders.

The field of spinal surgery has evolved tremendously in the past decade. In this issue, current controversies involving the cervical and thoracolumbar surgery have been addressed. In addition, separate sections on minimally invasive techniques and tissue engineering provide a perspective on these rapidly emerging fields

We would like to thank each of the contributing authors for their generous efforts. It was our aim to

present a broad range of topics and each of our invited authors have successfully provided information that is both timely and relevant.

Finally, we would especially like to acknowledge the invaluable assistance of Deb Dellapena at W.B. Saunders for her perseverance in making this issue a success.

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