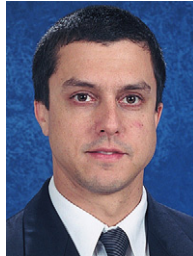


Preface



Steven Papp, MD, MSc, FRCS(C)
Guest Editor

It is an honor to act as guest editor for this edition of *Orthopedic Clinics of North America*. I currently practice in Ottawa, Ontario—home to the largest skating rink in the world. For the months of January to March, the Rideau Canal is transformed into an 8-kilometer skating rink for people to enjoy or even skate to work! Unfortunately, experienced and beginner skaters alike commonly have falls on this amazing but sometimes treacherous rink. Our volume of radius fractures, scaphoid fractures, and other wrist injuries dramatically goes up during these months. As I am sure many other orthopedic surgeons have experienced, the increased population, increased life expectancy, and increased general activity level have all translated into a great demand on physicians that deal with these problems. In Canada, the shortage of orthopedic specialists can compound this problem. Correct treatment can have a great impact on the patient and on society in terms of health care costs.

In this issue, leading authors and researchers from around North America have contributed articles on various topics in wrist trauma. The authors have vast experience with many research publications in this field, many of whom I look up to greatly.

In the first two articles, the anatomy and physical examination of the wrist serve as the building blocks for making a diagnosis in a patient who has a wrist injury. The next six articles cover various topics and treatment options related to

distal radius fractures, as this is probably the most common problem a treating physician will encounter. There has been an explosion of literature and implants available to deal with this common problem. The remaining articles cover scaphoid fractures, carpal bone fractures, distal radio-ulnar joint injuries, and ligament injuries common to the wrist. My hope is the orthopedic surgeon or training resident can use this issue as a reference for injuries to the wrist.

I have enjoyed the experience of putting this issue together immensely. Asking some of my senior colleagues to contribute was daunting, but luckily all of the authors were happy to contribute. I would like to thank them for their hard work and excellent and thoughtful articles. I would like to thank Deb Dellapena, the editor of this issue, for her diligent work on this project. I dedicate this issue to my wife Brenda and my children—Rosemary, Ryan, and Renée for their great support.

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