

Preface



Alan R. Catanzariti, DPM, FACFAS Robert W. Mendicino, DPM, FACFAS
Guest Editors

Arthritis is the leading cause of disability in the United States. People diagnosed with degenerative joint disease of the ankle constitute a large number of patients who experience pain and disability. This issue of *Clinics in Podiatric Medicine and Surgery* is dedicated to management of ankle arthritis. It is our pleasure to serve as Guest Editors.

The articles published in this issue have been authored by a diverse group of foot and ankle surgeons from various geographic areas. The first article by Robert Joseph, DPM provides an overview of basic science as it applies to osteoarthritis and provides insight into future technologies that might be available for cartilage replacement. The next article by Drs. John and Bongiovanni discuss the use of lower extremity braces to manage ankle deformity and instability. Dr. Chang's article describes the use of viscosupplementation to manage ankle arthritis. The following article by Drs. Grossman and Lyons provides a comprehensive review of osteochondral lesions of the talus. Drs. Kluesner and Wukich introduce arthrodiastasis as a joint sparing procedure for degenerative joint disease of the ankle. This is followed by an article authored by Drs. Lamm and Gourdin-Shaw describing the use of magnetic resonance imaging to evaluate ankle distraction. The article by Dr. Rush reviews the implications of malalignment on ankle arthritis and the role of supramalleolar osteotomies to address underlying deformity. The next three articles focus on fusion procedures including traditional ankle arthrodesis (Drs. Bowers, Mendicino, and Catanzariti), arthroscopic ankle arthrodesis (Dr. Lee), and tibiotalar calcaneal arthrodesis (Drs. Kim, Mendicino, and Catanzariti). The final article, authored by Dr. Steck, on total ankle replacement focuses on potential complications.

There are many people who deserve thanks for the preparation of this issue, most importantly, our families. A special thanks to our contributing editors for their hard work and dedication that made this issue possible. Lastly, we would like to thank the West

Penn Allegheny Health System for their support of graduate medical education and academics.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of Clinics.

Alan R. Catanzariti, DPM, FACFAS
Director of Residency Training
Department of Foot and Ankle Surgery
The Western Pennsylvania Hospital

Robert W. Mendicino, DPM, FACFAS
Chair, Department of Foot and Ankle Surgery
The Western Pennsylvania Hospital

E-mail addresses:
acatanzariti@faiwp.com (A.R. Catanzariti)
rmendicino@faiwp.com (R.W. Mendicino)