

Foreword



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Consulting Editor

The intent of this issue is to emphasize the importance of understanding the normal and pathologic mechanics of the first ray. An outstanding group of foot and ankle experts present their interesting work related entirely to the first ray. This is an exciting issue in that a variety of foot conditions including but not limited to hallux valgus, hallux rigidus, metatarsalgia, pes planovalgus, and cavus deformities are described in detail by addressing the role of the first ray and medial column in each pathology.

Dr. Ford and his colleagues have done an extraordinary job of addressing the pathology associated with abnormalities about the first ray while simultaneously covering controversial issues in the scientific literature pertaining to the first ray. I am a strong advocate of understanding normal and pathologic mechanics about the first ray, especially when surgical management is influenced by the overall position and motion of the medial column of the foot. In addition, this issue also discusses the role of equinus and its effect on the first ray and foot pathology.

Finally, I would like to thank Dr. Hansen for his introduction and contribution to the *Clinics in Podiatric Medicine and Surgery*. I hope this issue will become a great tool to guide you when dealing with surgery of the first ray and addressing the mechanics and function of the foot.

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