



## Preface

# MR imaging of sports-related injuries



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*Guest Editor*

I have been fortunate enough to have edited two issues of the *Clinics* that focus on sports-related injuries. This topic is very popular, and with good reason. Our society is more fitness-conscious than ever. Children and adolescents, especially females, are more involved in sports than they were in my generation. Elite athletes expect imaging to be interpreted instantly with the correct diagnosis and to be provided with a prognosis that determines the appropriate therapy and expected recovery period. Baby boomers are working out for their own health in record numbers but, because of their age, are also more prone to injury. On top of this, new knowledge and developments in MR imaging technology are difficult to find in books, which take years to write and publish. Clinicians are demanding that radiologists know the material so that they may provide helpful and accurate MR imaging interpretations. This compendium of articles focuses on the use of MR imaging in sports injury.

To play a useful role in diagnosis and therapy of sports injuries, it is important for the imager to be familiar with normal musculoskeletal anatomy, in addition to the potential pitfalls. Drs. Pfirrmann and colleagues have put together a review of normal variants and pitfalls in MR imaging

that relate to sports imaging. This article is being republished from the March 2002 issue of the *Radiologic Clinics of North America* on sports imaging because it provides a good baseline for decision-making. Athletic injuries to the shoulder are discussed in two separate articles by three well-regarded authors who have published extensively on this material: Dr. Tuite, Dr. Beltran, and Dr. Kim. Drs. Chung and Kim bring new concepts in elbow anatomy and MR imaging eloquently to light. Drs. Boutin and Newman present a cutting edge report on sports imaging of the hip, discussing areas such as impingement and snapping hip. Dr. Fritz elucidates some important new concepts regarding meniscal and cruciate ligament injuries, including the flap tear of the posterior lateral meniscus and injuries to the different bands of the cruciate ligaments. Drs. Zoga and Schweitzer use their extensive experience to enrich our knowledge of sports injuries to the foot and ankle. Dr. Crim, who was in charge of radiology in the polyclinic at the Salt Lake City Olympics, shares a unique, well-researched background and interesting cases from that event. Drs. Spitz and Newberg have done an admirable job of reviewing the different types of stress fractures in the athlete and how they are viewed by different

imaging techniques, which was originally published in the *Radiologic Clinics of North America*. In an encore from the most recent issue of the *Radiologic Clinics of North America*, Dr. Boutin comprehensively reviews imaging of sports-related muscle injuries, with special attention given to specific common musculotendinous injuries.

I want to thank this group of highly regarded authors who contributed articles to this issue in such an accomplished and timely manner. The efforts of these leaders in the field have resulted

in a presentation of fresh concepts in another outstanding overview of sports imaging.

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