Preface

Medicine is, fortunately, constantly evolving, and diagnostic imaging is no exception. Multidetector row computed tomography has now become as standard a tool as cardiovascular imaging using CT or MRI. This new edition of the *Pocket Atlas of Sectional Anatomy* recognizes these developments, and CT imaging of the chest and abdomen now includes sagittal and coronal images in addition to axial scans. Multistation imaging has become the standard for vascular imaging, especially for the pelvis and lower limbs. Consequently, more space has been devoted to vascular imaging studies, which are presented in the chapters on Special MR Examinations and MR Angiography.

Of course, the improved resolution of the sectional images has made it necessary to label our images in greater detail. Multicolor artwork has helped to ensure that the atlas is still easy to use. The same anatomical structures are depicted in the same color throughout the book. Thus, the user can tell at a glance whether a structure is a vessel or a nerve, a muscle or a fluid, and can easily identify a specific organ. Colors also distinguish different muscle groups. Color selections have been drawn from the *Pocket Atlas of Sectional Anatomy III: Limbs, Joints, and Spine.*

We have kept to the previous format of pairing a representative CT or MR image with a correlative, keyed color drawing on the facing page. Small locational diagrams are also provided, as in previous editions. Pulmonary and hepatic segments and specific lymph node stations are conveniently listed on a back-cover foldout. We have made an effort to follow established anatomical and clinical conventions in numbering the cardiac vessels (in line with the American Heart Association), for example, and the mediastinal lymph nodes (following the American Joint Committee on Cancer and Union for International Cancer Control classification systems for lung cancer, as well as their color system for the lymph nodes).

As in previous editions, none of these improvements would have been possible without the help of many supporters. We express special thanks to our technologists Silke Köhl, Sabine Mattil, Stefanie Müller, Brigitte Schild, and Biggi Pieles, as well as Michaela Martin and Bernhard Klueh of the Siemens Manufacturing Center for their constant enthusiasm in the production of high-quality images, and to our colleagues Eberhard Bauer and Christoph Buntru for providing high-resolution CT images.

Once again, we have all worked hard on countless details and hope that users will enjoy this book as much as we do.

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