

ATLAS OF THYROID SURGERY: PRINCIPLES, PRACTICE, AND CLINICAL CASES

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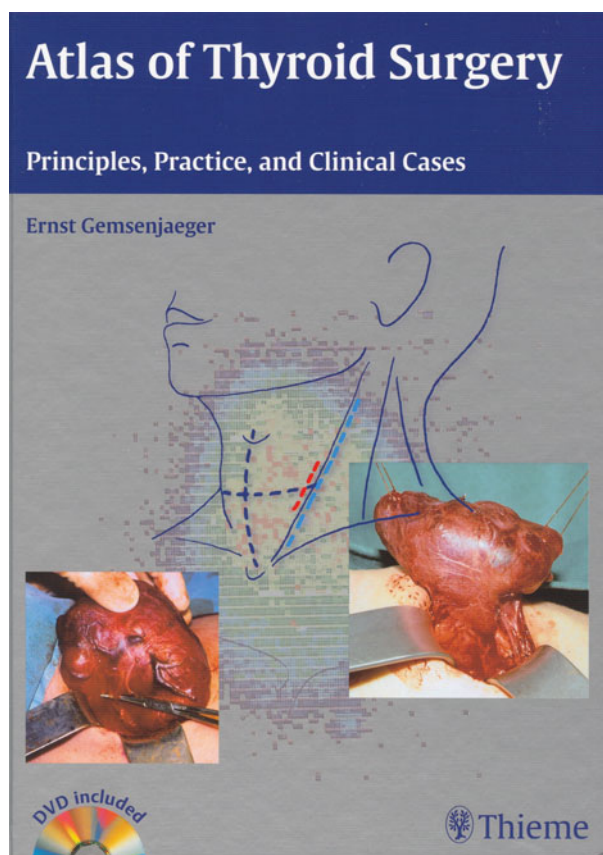
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I enjoyed reading this book a great deal. It is clearly written by an expert in thyroid surgery who is following the School of Safe Thyroid Surgery established in Switzerland at the end of the nineteenth century by Theodore Kocher (who won the Nobel Prize in 1909 for his contributions to thyroid surgery).

The book systematically covers all aspects of thyroid surgery, going through surgical anatomy and technique, capsular dissection, and the author's approach to the ligament of Berry and the parathyroids. There are good chapters on thyroid nodules, molecular genetic diagnosis and gene profiling, as well as case records, an excellent chapter on embryological thyroid developmental anomalies, plus chapters which describe how to deal with benign nodular goitre, nodules in Graves disease and thyroiditis, and malignant tumours (with particular reference to papillary and follicular thyroid cancer, medullary thyroid cancer and anaplastic carcinoma). Throughout the text, all chapters are well referenced and beautifully illustrated. I particularly enjoyed the simple diagrams used to describe well recognised surgical manoeuvres.

The book comes with a DVD which describes a number of points related to thyroidectomy, including extracapsular dissection and techniques for removing benign and malignant tumours. The only criticism would be that the quality of the DVD filming is not of the highest standard and the illustration of, and attention to, methodical thyroid surgical technique is a bit 'hit and miss'. I think it would have been better to focus on techniques of thyroidectomy and to concentrate on aspects such as marking the incision, approaching the upper pole, superior thyroid vessels and the external branch of the



superior laryngeal nerve, as well as the technical aspects relating to parathyroid preservation, and how to handle the ligament of Berry, with regards to the recurrent laryngeal nerve.

These are however minor criticisms and, overall, I think this is an excellent book. I would recommend it to any thyroid surgeon, and it should be on the shelf of most departmental libraries.

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