

Foreword

After two decades of ever-increasing subspecialization, it is very encouraging and rewarding to see that otorhinolaryngology, head and neck surgery still can and should be seen as an entity. In the new edition of this marvelous textbook, Professor Hans Behrbohm and his colleagues, who have taken over authorship from Professors Walter Becker, Hans Heinz Naumann, and Carl Rudolf Pfaltz, provide all the anatomical, physiological, diagnostic, and therapeutic evidence for this, should anyone be in doubt.

This brilliantly illustrated textbook addresses advanced medical students and doctors alike, and provides a modern overview of the complexity of our fascinating specialty. As such, it may serve as both a learning and a teaching reference, summarizing our present knowledge of the different aspects of all components contributing to otorhinolaryngology, head and neck surgery.

It adds to the value and beauty of this book that not only the connections between and interdepen-

dence of various subspecialties are displayed, but the interdisciplinarity with neighboring specialties is also addressed, e.g., with neurosurgery and neurology for skull base and intracranial structures, with chest medicine specialties for tracheal and pulmonary disorders, or with gastroenterology for disorders of the upper digestive tract.

Thieme Publishers have to be congratulated for providing the plentiful and outstanding colored anatomical and schematic illustrations, in addition to the photographic images. This is a truly international textbook that will be of great benefit to all of its readers!

H. Stammberger, MD, FRCSEd(Hon),
FRCS(Eng)(Hon), FACS(Hon)
Professor and Head
Department of General Otorhinolaryngology,
Head and Neck Surgery
Medical University of Graz
Graz, Austria

Preface

The first edition of *Ear, Nose, and Throat Diseases* was written by Professors Walter Becker (1920–1990), Hans Heinz Naumann (1919–2001), and Carl R. Pfaltz (1922–2003) and published in 1988. Since then, and over several English and German editions, this book has presented the essential knowledge of otorhinolaryngology, head and neck surgery in a concise and highly accessible format. In addition to this, it also provided advanced information to facilitate a better understanding of the diagnostic and therapeutic issues and challenges of the specialty. The scope and didactic presentation of its content made this book attractive to medical students, specialist trainees, residents, interested practitioners and specialists, both as a textbook and reference source. Because of its continuing success, a new edition of *Ear, Nose, and Throat Diseases* was very much in demand, and we are grateful to Thieme Medical Publishers for the opportunity to prepare this new volume.

We have been sensitive to the fact that the book has been important on an international scale and we have strived to maintain this status, recognizing that the range of presenting conditions and their management will vary between various countries. As a surgical specialty, otorhinolaryngology–head and neck surgery has shown a fast-paced, progressive development with regard to diagnosis and treatment and the increased understanding of pathophysiological principles. It was therefore necessary to restructure some chapters completely and to revise and update the remaining ones in order to bring the new edition up to the present standard of scientific and technical knowledge and practice in this specialty.

As in the previous editions, basic information is presented in normal type; supplementary and advanced information is given in a smaller type.

The figures supplementing the text have received particular attention, as they are immensely important and key to understanding the text. Numerous new drawings have been prepared; all of the existing drawings have been recreated in full color as well as revised and updated where necessary. Visual findings are often the key to diagnosis for the otorhinolaryngologist, so all of the previous clinical photographs have been replaced with new images,

and the number of images has been greatly increased.

Our medical illustrator, Ms Katja Dalkowski MD, has made a substantial contribution to the visual appearance of the book, and we would like to express our gratitude for her invaluable assistance and commitment to the project. Our constant contact with Mr Stephan Konnry, our editor at Thieme Medical Publishers, his thorough editorial work and clearing up of many, many details and questions made an extremely valuable and beneficial contribution to the book.

The book project was generously supported by Dr h. c. mult. Sybill Storz, to whom we are extremely grateful. We are also grateful to the patients who were willing to allow photographs of their sometimes serious diseases to be published for the purpose of medical education.

It is our hope that this new edition will continue to be a valuable practical guide to the vast range of otorhinolaryngology, head and neck surgery for its readers—the students of medicine and dental medicine, as well as physicians and surgeons who are either in training or practicing as established specialists in various disciplines within the field.

Hans Behrbohm
Oliver Kaschke
Tadeus Nawka
Andrew Swift

We would like to express our warm thanks here to our former head of department and teacher, H.-J. Gerhardt—now Professor Emeritus at the Department of Otorhinolaryngology at the Charité Hospital in Berlin (where he held the chair from 1973 to 1994)—for providing rare pictures of disease conditions from his image archive.

The *Berlin Diagnostic Workshops* have provided an important stimulus for the work on this book. We have been involved in obtaining and assessing visual and auditory organ findings for more than 10 years and have had the opportunity to discuss these discoveries with many physicians.

Hans Behrbohm
Oliver Kaschke
Tadeus Nawka