WFNS Spine Committee: Textbook on Thoracic Spine

A total of 465 pages, 53 chapters profusely illustrated and color. The book has come out impressively and looks very attractive. The contributors include eminent experts in the field from all over the world. The book has been dedicated by PS Ramani to all his students who are spread all over the world.

The history of the thoracic disk has been described by Pragnesh Bhatt et al from Scotland, the applied anatomy of the thoracic spine has been discussed in details by Cumhur Kilincer from Turkey and biomechanics have been discussed by Evren Yuvruk and Sait Naderi from Turkey.
The approaches to the thoracic spine have been described by various authors separately, e.g. lateral extra-cavitatory approach has been described by N Muthukumar and Amol Rege from India, costotransversectomy and dorsal laminectomy by PS Ramani from India. Minimally invasive techniques for spinal stenosis by Marcos Masini et al from Brazil, minimal access surgery for tumors by Ibet Marie Sih et al from Philippines, anterolateral exposures by Mohd Maziad from Egypt, pedicle screw fixation by Devanand Domini from USA and percutaneous pedicle screw by PD Kulkarni from England and image-guided thoracic pedicle screw placement by Ben Roitberg, USA, posterolateral approach by David TF Sun from Hong Kong, ROC, transaxillary approach by Vernon Velho from India, transclavicular and transmanubrial approach by Mehmet Zileli from Turkey. Transpedicular approach by Shekhar Bhojraj from India, transthoracic approach to the thoracic disk by Pragnesh Bhatt et al, Scotland, minimal access VITOM by A Younus from South Africa, thoracoscopic approach by Luigi Andrew et al, Korea, percutaneous endoscopic discectomy by HY Lee et al from Korea, percutaneous vertebral augmentation by Chun-Kun Park from Korea and Bambang Darwono, Indonesia, robotic assisted approach by Mick Perez-Cruet, USA.

The book immediately starts with the clinical chapters beginning with cementoplasty by Marcos Masini et al. The intradural extramedullary tumors have been well-described by Yury Shulev et al from Russia. Tumors in general, both of the spine and spinal cord by Mehmet Zileli from Turkey, thoracic spinal cord tumors by Vedantam Rajshekhar and Mazda Turel from India and pattern of spinal tumors in India by PS Ramani et al from India.

Infection of the spine including tuberculosis is common in India and this has been well-discussed in the book including all its aspects by Ram Chaddha et al in India, Salman Sharif et al from Pakistan, PS Ramani et al from India and Kourosh Karimi Yarandi et al from Iran.

Ossification in the ligamentum flavum, dorsal spinal stenosis and ossification of posterior longitudinal ligament are common in the thoracic spine and the subject has been well dealt with by Mehmet Zileli from Turkey, Se-Hoon Kim and Jung Keun Suh from Korea, JT Hing and Chun-Kun Park from Korea, Yoshitaka Hirano et al from Japan and ligamentum hypertrophy in thoracic spine by WK Mak and David Sun from Hong Kong, ROC.

The common topic of thoracic disk herniation has been dealt with by Pragnesh Bhatt et al from Scotland and Mehmet Simsek and Mehmet Zileli from Turkey.

The chapter on deformities of the spine starts with morphometric study of the vertebrae by Eko Subagio et al from Indonesia, management of early onset scoliosis by K Khurjekar et al from India and PS Ackerman from USA.

Spinal vascular malformations have been discussed by Anil Karapurkar and Nishant Aditya followed by interventional neuroradiology by Uday Limaye and G Chandrashekhar from India, vascular malformation by Mario Zanaty et al from USA.

The book concludes with an important chapter of stereotactic radiosurgery from metastatic tumors by Ibet Marie Sih et al from Philippines.

On the whole, the book is quite instructional on the complex topic of thoracic spine and is worth having a copy in the personal as well as general library.