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Osamu Sugimoto

# A Color Atlas of Hysteroscopy

With 277 Figures in Color



Springer

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# Preface

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In the first edition of *Diagnostic and Therapeutic Hysteroscopy* published in 1978 by Igaku-Shoin Ltd., the principal consideration was to demonstrate the superiority of diagnostic hysteroscopy by illustrating intrauterine abnormalities. Consequently, the emphasis was centered on instrumentation, diagnostic procedures, and the presentation of color photographs taken using still photography through a rigid water hysteroscope. Since that time, hysteroscopy has advanced remarkably thanks to a rapid expansion of indications for endoscopic surgery and to the progress in new instrumentation, including a flexible and steerable thin caliber fiber hysteroscope and the introduction of a new documentation system using TV monitoring.

At the same time, however, it has remained difficult to get a distinct picture of hysteroscopic findings on record because of the difficulties inherent in the use of a video camera with a fiber endoscope. While we have generally used TV monitoring for diagnostic hysteroscopy in accordance with current practice, we still insist on practicing still photography with a rigid hysteroscope to record precise images. We have always maintained that it is important to become proficient in using hysteroscopy as a diagnostic method before undertaking operative procedures. During the last few years, operative hysteroscopy has developed rapidly, and there are many relevant, up-to-date textbooks in this field. Consequently, operative hysteroscopy was not included in this atlas.

Since the publication of the first edition of this book, we have carried out 400 to 550 hysteroscopic examinations a year in patients with intrauterine abnormalities. In the course of these examinations, we have preserved quintessential diagnostic photographs of the diseases encountered. Almost all these hysteroscopic photographs, more than 200 of which appear in this book, were taken with an improved single-lens reflex camera (Olympus OM 2) connected directly to the eyepiece of a rigid hysteroscope. All pictures are remarkably clear, making any concomitant pen and ink illustrations unnecessary.

OSAMU SUGIMOTO, M.D., Ph.D.

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