

This book highlights the revolution started by intraoperative video as a tool for surgical innovation, education, and research (1).

The era of “see one, do one, teach one” in surgery is rapidly giving way to a high-definition, three-dimensional platform for visualizing both the operative field and its related anatomy. Video and operative guidance have become both teacher and quality improvement tool even for procedures performed at low incidence. This path was discovered by JD Birkmeyer and others by using video to prove a link between technical proficiency and patient outcomes (2).

The confluence of evolving three-dimensional/4k video, 3-D imaging, and computer-assisted technologies is radically transforming surgery beyond the original Greek *cheirourgia*, “work done by hand,” into a minimally-invasive landscape populated by robots, virtual reality, and simulation. It is hard to imagine how the “old ways” can long co-exist with these powerful forces for change.

Every chapter in *Minimally Invasive Pancreatic Surgery* is written, illustrated, and beautifully demonstrated by modern experts in the field of pancreatic surgery. This book proves that resourcefulness remains a strong character trait among surgeons who will figure out how to disseminate even the most difficult minimally-invasive procedures to peers around the world so that patients with pancreatic disease may find relief of their pain and avoidance of disability after surgery.

I sincerely hope this book is a further step toward re-defining adverse public perceptions of open surgery which have persisted since its invention more than one hundred years ago.

References

1. Alverdy JC. A Video Is Worth a Thousand Words. *JAMA Surg* 2016;151:e160476.
2. Birkmeyer JD, Finks JF, O'Reilly A, et al. Surgical skill and complication rates after bariatric surgery. *N Engl J Med* 2013;369:1434-42.



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