
Preface

We are pleased to have participated in the preparation of this book. The first two editions of *Transfusion Medicine Self-Assessment and Review* were successful, most importantly, because they filled an educational niche in the field. In particular, residents and fellows training in the field of transfusion medicine have come to regard this book as an important educational resource, both for learning the field and for board examination preparation. Although there are additional educational resources in transfusion medicine that now meet this same need (eg, the Web-based *Transfusion Medicine Question of the Day*), we are confident that this third edition of the text will continue to be useful to the educator and the student. For some of us, there is no adequate replacement for a well-worn and dog-eared book.

The authorship of this text has changed over the years, but the authors' commitment to providing a vibrant educational resource that accurately reflects current transfusion medicine understanding has not. Although the 15 chapters that comprised the second edition have not changed, we have expanded the number of questions in each chapter significantly. There are now 40 questions per chapter (600 total) in comparison to 440 questions in the second edition and 379 in the first. In addition, all of the questions have been updated and revised to reflect the current state of the field. As examples, new questions reflect topics as diverse as donor hemoglobin levels, patient blood management, Zika virus and the blood supply, and MSM deferrals. These qualitative and quantitative changes should provide for an enhanced learning experience.

As with the first and second editions, the authors anticipate that the third edition of *Transfusion Medicine Self-Assessment and Review* will be a resource benefitting all who desire an improved understanding of transfusion medicine. We hope that our text is an effective and enjoyable tool that will enhance the reader's understanding of the field for years to come.

Douglas P. Blackall, MD, MPH
Justin D. Kreuter, MD