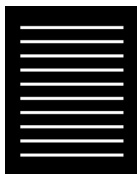

Preface



WELCOME TO THE 5TH EDITION of *Transfusion Therapy: Clinical Principles and Practice*! As the editors, we recognize that much about transfusion appropriateness remains elusive, but we made an effort to put

together an excellent and skilled cadre of authors for the current edition.

In this edition, readers will notice that most chapters with the same titles are included, although not in the same order. Furthermore, several of them have new authorship. We also realized that chapters on important topics were missing in the previous edition, such as transfusion for victims of trauma, for those with massive bleeding, and for individuals with sickle cell disease. These three new chapters are complementing and enriching the text, and we are convinced that they will be of great interest to transfusion medicine professionals as well as our clinical colleagues who order blood and blood components for their patients.

As in the previous edition, each chapter starts with a content “Preview” that provides a very useful overview of the information included. Once again, we emphasized to all authors the importance of including as many evidence-based recommendations as possible. Recognizing that

robust trials reported in the medical literature do not exist yet for all topics, recommendations based on lower grades of evidence, including expert opinion or experience from practice, were included sporadically and so identified.

It is our expectation that this new edition will be even more helpful to clinicians caring for patients who might need a transfusion. Further, the editors and authors of this edition also intended to create an authoritative source for transfusion medicine professionals in their consultative and oversight efforts.

We sincerely thank all authors for sharing their time and expertise with the readers of the book. Assisting us in the final weeks of production when time was short, we were fortunate to enlist Rance Chadwick Siniard, MD, to augment our editorial review. We owe him a great deal of thanks. We are also indebted to the team of the AABB publishing staff, who matched the dedication of the authors, and several others who reviewed and clarified key passages. Happy reading!

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