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# Preface



THIS BOOK DOES NOT INCLUDE every known research design in every field of study. Instead, it presents the fundamentals of the major designs (with some variations on these designs) that are particularly useful in our field. It is the first the book of its kind in transfusion medicine. As such, it should serve a valuable purpose for the transfusion research community.

*Research Design in Transfusion Medicine* is intended not only for trainees but also for mid- and late-career researchers who may wish to consider different approaches to research. The content also contains new and emerging designs in transfusion medicine such as electronic health record designs and genotype-phenotype association study designs that are providing significant insights into the practice of transfusion medicine.

Of the five sections in the book, the first, on research preparation, presents a critical foundation for the execution of successful research and for the designs described in ensuing chapters. Preparation is crucial to the success of any project, and in these days of constrained resources (both time and money) it is important to start off with a sturdy foundation on which to build a design. Chapters in the remainder of the book describe various research designs, situations where they can be used

effectively to answer specific questions and avoid pitfalls. Most chapters include appendices, where the chapter author provides an example of a research report and discusses how effectively that example used the selected design to advantage. This is a unique feature of the book compared with research design texts in other disciplines.

This book is the result of collaboration between more than 50 authors, 8 section editors, and more than 30 chapter reviewers, all drawing on a broad base of knowledge and experience.

I am deeply grateful to all, as well as to the team at AABB Press. Thanks are due as well to Dr. Michael Busch and Dr. Steven Kleinman for writing the foreword; their decades of experience make them ideal guides for this volume.

Whether you are a trainee, a mid-career academic, or an experienced researcher, I hope you find this book both practical and inspiring. May it expand your horizons, sharpen your skills, and ultimately contribute to the ongoing advancement of transfusion medicine. My hope is that, like the books that influenced me, this volume will see many editions and continue to serve researchers for years to come.

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