A new book was published in May this year, entitled “Aorto-iliac atherosclerotic surgical pathology. Treatment and complications” having as author Dr. Horaţiu Silaghi, MD, PhD, lecturer at Vth Surgery Department, Iuliu Haţieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca. The author accomplished his specialization in vascular surgery in Cluj and the prestigious centre La Timone, Université de la Méditerranée Aix-Marseille II, France, during a 2-year internship.

Although medical literature is generally well represented in the national publishing landscape, this work is one of the very few that deals with vascular surgery, and especially aspects of surgical techniques and complications of surgical treatment. The book is addressed mainly to residents and young specialists in vascular surgery, but it can also prove to be an excellent support for other surgical specialties (general surgery, urology, gynecology, orthopedics-traumatology) in which a vascular approach is required by accident or necessity.

The paper is structured on 5 chapters including anatomy, surgical indication and procedures, subsequent complications, and other surgical considerations such as degree of emergency, evaluation of results, selection of materials, or duration of in-hospital stay. Particularly interesting and comprehensive are the chapters dedicated to surgical techniques and treatment complications.

Detailed operating times of interventions taking place in the aorta and iliac arteries are rigorously described for the large groups of pathological conditions - aneurysms and occlusive disease.

For each type of disease, the surgical techniques by open surgery, endovascular procedures or laparoscopic surgery are presented. The reader could note a remarkable extensive description of endovascular procedures - dilations, stents or endoprostheses deployment, that are less familiar for vascular surgeons in our country, although they represent up to 60% of the overall interventions in the western countries.

Regardless of the type of procedures performed, various incidents, accidents and complications may occur during their execution or later on. It is extremely important to recognize and solve them in the same operative time; otherwise, this could lead to more severe complications that compromise the functional and even the vital prognosis of the patient. The extraordinary development of endovascular procedures has produced specific complications that have not been encountered in conventional surgery.

Vascular surgery has been recognized as a distinct specialty in Romania since 1998, but despite this fact, there is currently no textbook of surgical techniques in Romanian. Residents in vascular surgery learn from their coordinators, books published abroad, the Interne, or internships in other European centers. Certainly, not once, residents, specialists or even more experienced surgeons asked themselves how to perform in a particular case. Which procedure? Which approach? What materials? What complications can they expect?

For this reason, we welcome the idea of this book that presents in a precise and synthetic way the possibilities of surgical treatment at the disposal of the vascular surgeon, the description of the operating times from the patient’s installation on the operating table to the suture of the skin, required materials and equipments and, last but not least, incidents, accidents and complications that may occur during or after surgery. In this context, it is to be appreciated the publication of a volume accessible in Romanian, presenting detailed aspects, some of them perhaps less known, conditioning the success of the surgical procedure.

Traian Scridon