



## Introduction

This issue of *Seminars in Cutaneous Medicine and Surgery* will focus on the various complications and adverse events that arise in medical, surgical, and cosmetic dermatology. We are entering an exciting time for our specialty, with numerous advances in technology and the development of new medications and products which allow us to offer unparalleled treatment options for our patients. Yet along with this progress and increased number of medical and surgical interventions comes a growing group of complications, adverse events, and side effects that can interfere with appropriate patient outcomes.

The most effective way to deal with complications is through prevention. With this in mind, the papers in this issue will explicitly detail effective ways to minimize the occurrence of the most common complications through the proper preoperative management, patient selection, peri-operative techniques, and postoperative care. However, despite the efforts to avoid adverse events by the most cautious physicians, complications will undoubtedly arise even under the best of circumstances. Having the knowledge to quickly identify an adverse event and appropriately intervene is a critical skill for safe and effective patient care. Therefore in addition to the focus on prevention, the authors will address the proper management of complications should they occur.

This issue of *Seminars in Cutaneous Medicine and Surgery* begins with a discussion of informed consent and medical malpractice, an extremely important topic in the current legal environment in which we practice. A thorough review of the

newer biologic therapies that are currently being used and the side effects that are associated with them will be addressed. The adverse events that can occur with nonablative lasers, radiofrequency, and light-based devices will be presented. This special issue will then follow with a detailed review of the complications within the field of phlebology and the treatment of leg veins. A discussion outlining the complications that can occur with the use of botulinum toxin in both cosmetic and medical indications will be presented. An excellent paper outlining the numerous adverse effects associated with the increasing number of new filler agents that are available will follow. We will then turn our attention to some of the more common complications associated with dermatologic surgery, with a pair of updated reviews on bleeding and infection. Lastly, the issue will close with a paper that outlines a series of pearls to minimize adverse events when performing surgery and procedures in the pediatric population.

It has been a privilege to work with this collection of authors and experts in this endeavor. I hope that this issue of *Seminars in Cutaneous Medicine and Surgery* will offer greater insight into the importance of minimizing and managing the occurrence of complications, and will provide the reader with relevant and applicable tips that can be brought into daily practice.

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