

Anatomy

A Photographic Atlas

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Preface to the Eighth Edition

The knowledge of the structure and topography of the various organs of the human body is a prerequisite not only for the education of medical students but also for everyone involved in diagnostic and therapy of human diseases. This knowledge can optimally be gained by dissection of the human body, with an excellent atlas by one's side. Today there exist a number of good anatomic atlases, but most of them contain mainly schematic drawings, which minimally reflect reality. In contrast, the photographs of the actual anatomic specimens have the advantage of conveying the reality of the object with its proportions and spatial dimensions in a more accurate manner.

On the other hand, schematic drawings help us to better understand the photos. Therefore, in this eighth edition, the number of drawings has greatly been increased and old drawings have been replaced by new ones specifically adapted to their accompanying photos.

The didactic purpose of this atlas is not only to help the student understand the topography of the human body. We also hope to provide a way to systematically learn the anatomical structures and functions. Therefore, the chapters of regional anatomy are consequently placed behind a systematic description of the anatomical structures – e.g., before dissecting an extremity, the

student can study the systematic anatomy of the involved bones, joints, muscles, nerves, and vessels.

The correlations between clinical images like MRI and CT scans can best be learned if sections of scans can be directly compared with cadaveric anatomical sections of the same region. In this edition, a number of MRI scans have been added that have been taken in a plane of the related anatomical section. In addition, functional MRI scans of the heart and the related anatomical preparations are included, hopefully increasing the importance of the atlas for clinical purposes.

While preparing this new edition, the authors were reminded of how precisely, beautifully, and admirably the human body is constructed. If this book helps the student or physician to appreciate the overwhelming beauty of the anatomical architecture of these tissues and organs, then it greatly fulfills its task. Deep interest and admiration of these anatomical structures may create the "love for the human being," which unhesitatingly becomes the inspiration to pursue the vocation of medicine.

Erlangen, Germany; Spring 2015

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The preparations of the anatomical specimens shown in this atlas were time consuming and required profound knowledge. Therefore, all were prepared by anatomists or surgeons. The majority were prepared by the authors and coworkers either in the Department of Anatomy in Erlangen or in the Department of Anatomy, Kanagawa, Dental College in Tokyo. We would like to express our great gratitude to Prof. S. Nagashima, Prof. K. Okamoto, and Dr. M. Takahashi (all Japan) who worked for extended periods in Germany in the Department of Anatomy in Erlangen, and to Dr. K. Schmidt, Dr. G. Lindner-Funk (both Nuremberg), Dr. M. Rexer (Fürth), R.M. Mc Donnell (Dallas, USA), and Mr. J. Bryant (Erlangen) for dissecting specimens with great skill and knowledge.

We are also greatly indebted to Mr. H. Sommer (SOMSO Co., Coburg, Germany) who kindly provided a number of excellent bone specimens.

All the excellent macro photos of specimens newly included in this eighth edition, most notably those of the skeletal system and of the heart, were contributed by our photographer Mr. M. Göbwein, to whom we express our great gratitude.

Most important for this new eighth edition was the work of our artist Mr. J. Pekarsky. He created many new drawings specifi-

cally adapted to the photos in this edition and revised most of the old ones. We express our many thanks to him for his most excellent and time consuming work.

We are greatly indebted to our coworkers from the Department of Radiology, especially Prof. M. Uder and his colleagues (Erlangen) who took the time to perform MRI scans specifically adapted to specimens in our atlas and who added scans to the heart chapter that significantly improved our ability to elucidate the functional aspects of this organ. Also, we extend our thanks to Prof. W. J. Huk and Prof. W. Bautz (both Erlangen), Prof. A. Heuck (Munich), and Dr. Wieners (Berlin) for their excellent MRI and CT scans.

In addition, we express our many thanks to our secretary Mrs. L. Koehler for her untiring and excellent cooperation and to Dr. C. Sims-O'Neil for her careful corrections of the proofs of the new edition.

Finally, we gratefully acknowledge the head of our publisher (Schattauer Verlag, Stuttgart) Mr. D. Bergemann and his coworkers, particularly Mrs. E. Wallstein, who prepared the final layout of the Atlas and worked intensely together with the authors on the new structure of this edition.

Acknowledgments

Preface to the First Edition

Today there exist any number of good anatomic atlases. Consequently, the advent of a new work requires justification. We found three main reasons to undertake the publication of such a book.

First of all, most of the previous atlases contain mainly schematic or semischematic drawings, which often reflect reality only in a limited way; the third dimension, i.e., the spatial effect, is lacking. In contrast, the photo of the actual anatomic specimen has the advantage of conveying the reality of the object with its proportions and spatial dimensions in a more exact and realistic manner than the "idealized," colored "nice" drawings of most previous atlases. Furthermore, the photo of the human specimen corresponds to the student's observations and needs in the dissection courses. Thus he has the advantage of immediate orientation by photographic specimens while working with the cadaver.

Secondly, some of the existing atlases are classified by systemic rather than regional aspects. As a result, the student needs several books each supplying the necessary facts for a certain region of the body. The present atlas, however, tries to portray macroscopic anatomy with regard to the regional and stratigraphic aspects of the object itself as realistically as possible. Hence it is an immediate help during the dissection courses in the study of medical and dental anatomy.

Another intention of the authors was to limit the subject to the essential and to offer it didactically in a way that is self-explanatory. To all regions of the body we added schematic drawings of the main tributaries of nerves and vessels, of the course and mechanism of the muscles, of the nomenclature of the various regions, etc. This will enhance the understanding of the details

seen in the photographs. The complicated architecture of the skull bones, for example, was not presented in a descriptive way, but rather through a series of figures revealing the mosaic of bones by adding one bone to another, so that ultimately the composition of skull bones can be more easily understood.

Finally, the authors also considered the present situation in medical education. On one hand there is a universal lack of cadavers in many departments of anatomy, while on the other hand there has been a considerable increase in the number of students almost everywhere. As a consequence, students do not have access to sufficient illustrative material for their anatomic studies. Of course, photos can never replace the immediate observation, but we think the use of a macroscopic photo instead of a painted, mostly idealized picture is more appropriate and is an improvement in anatomic study over drawings alone.

The majority of the specimens depicted in the atlas were prepared by the authors either in the Dept. of Anatomy in Erlangen, Germany, or in the Dept. of Anatomy, Kanagawa Dental College, Yokosuka, Japan. The specimens of the chapter on the neck and those of the spinal cord demonstrating the dorsal branches of the spinal nerves were prepared by Dr. K. Schmidt with great skill and enthusiasm. The specimens of the ligaments of the vertebral column were prepared by Dr. Th. Mokrusch, and a great number of specimens in the chapter of the upper and lower limb was very carefully prepared by Dr. S. Nagashima, Kurume, Japan.

Once again, our warmest thanks go out to all of our coworkers for their unselfish, devoted and highly qualified work.

Erlangen, Germany; Spring 1983

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