

Abdominal Pedicle Flaps To The Hand And Forearm



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Chapter One:

INTRODUCTION *by Dr. John C. Kelleher, Sr.*

This surgical monograph is dedicated to the memory of Sterling Bunnell, M.D.; Lot Howard, M.D.; and Donald Pratt, M.D. It is also dedicated to others who have provided so much to my fund of information on the topic of surgery of the hand. This would include my mentors in training in Plastic Surgery: Walter Coakley, M.D.; David Teplitsky, M.D.; Leonard Rubin, M.D.; Richard Walden, D.D.S., M.D.; and Stephen McCoy, M.D. Many others were involved in the sharing of their vast funds of information at various meetings and seminars that helped to give me the needed background on this particular area of surgery. To mention a few: Joseph Boyes, M.D.; William Littler, M.D.; Robert Chase, M.D.; William White, M.D.; Robert McCormick, M.D.; Harry Buncke, M.D.; Harold Kleinert, M.D.; Joseph Posch, M.D.; Martin Entin, M.D.; William Frackelton, M.D.; J. E. Flynn, M.D.; Brandon Macomber, M.D.; Brad Cannon, M.D.; and Sumner Koch, M.D. Perhaps those most involved in helping me develop an in-depth interest for this type of surgery were my associates: James G. Sullivan, M.D.; Robert K. Dean, M.D.; George J. Baibak, M.D.; and John H. Robinson, M.D. I would also like to recognize my son, John C. Kelleher, Jr. M.D., for editing and putting the final touches on this work.

The purpose of this monograph is intended to gather together and publish my thoughts on this special area of surgery of the hand which encompass a period of time from 1948 to 1995 involving more than 150 examples. I am going to emphasize the principals and technical requirements for successful abdominal flap coverage of the hand. Because the surgery has been modified over that period of time, I felt that it would be best to review the 52 cases from the most recent 25 years from 1970 to 1995. These 52 cases represent work done by one individual (J.C.K.) and represent my thoughts and opinions to best complete successfully this special area of surgery of the hand. It is intended as a detailed reference for those younger surgeons who might not have been exposed to this surgical technique.