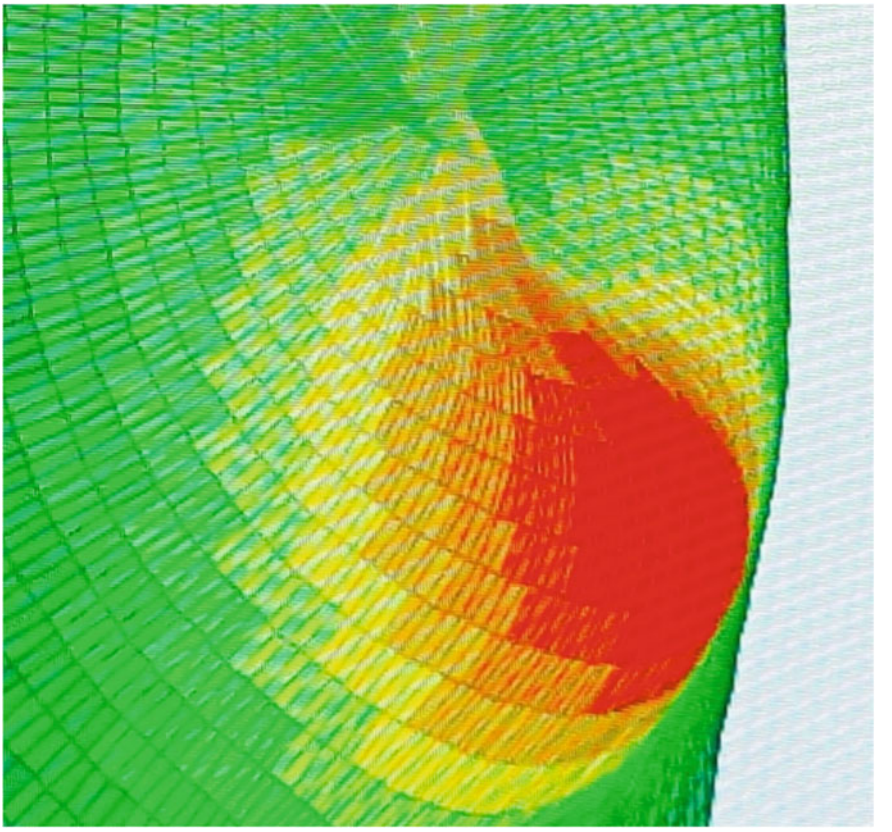
Keratoconus



Ashraf Armia · Cosimo Mazzotta
Editors

Keratoconus

Current and Future State-of-the-Art

Springer

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ISBN 978-3-030-84505-6 ISBN 978-3-030-84506-3 (eBook)
https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-84506-3

This Springer imprint is published by the registered company Springer Nature Switzerland AG
The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland

Dedicated to Vivian, Carol, Karim and my great father Armia and All Authors

Ashraf Armia MD, MSc, FRSC, FACS

Dedicated to my mother Anna, my Family and to University of Sassari, Italy

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Preface

I was both honoured and delighted to be invited to write the preface for this volume. A book devoted to recent findings in the field of Keratoconus has been long overdue and therefore this volume fills a substantial void. The Editors are World authorities in this field and have used their reputations to secure a huge range of international expertise to cover every aspect of our current understanding of Keratoconus. This work excels in bringing together clinicians with extensive international experience in caring for such a disparate group of patients while at the same time integrating the latest endeavours of scientists who are actively involved in understanding the genetics, aetiology and prognosis of this condition. A cursory study of the chapter headings will convince the reader of the wide-ranging nature of this book and its systematic approach to defining the problems, the current situation in the clinic and the potential future of clinical management in relation to a variety of research approaches. While the old debate of nature versus nurture continues, molecular biology and biophysics have begun to tilt the discussion in favour of genetic predisposition with the discovery of numerous genes concerned with controlling the structural integrity of the cornea. A more detailed understanding of these processes is fundamental to the continued provision of safe refractive surgery. Comprehensive studies of the cellular and structural integrity of the cornea and the underlying mechanisms of cross-linking are also fundamental to extending the use and development of this technique. All these subjects are covered in the various chapters of this volume together with the special problems of addressing refractive errors in patients with significantly deformed corneas. The range of international authorship provides a comprehensive update for individuals moving into this area and a means of rapidly assimilating new information for those established in the field. I congratulate my many friends and colleagues for completing this work during such a strange time in world medicine and commend the volume to all interested in Keratoconus.

London, UK
April 2021

John Marshall

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