

Surgical resection of intrathoracic neoplasms of the thymus was traditionally performed through a median sternotomy. Over the last decade there has been an unbelievable evolution in thoracic surgery with the introduction and development of minimally invasive approaches, such as video assisted thoracic surgery (VATS) or robotic assisted thoracic surgery (RATS). These new techniques are becoming more popular worldwide not only for major lung surgery but also for thymus resection. With the purpose of reducing perioperative morbidity and improving postoperative outcomes, even more complex procedures are nowadays performed with minimal invasive approaches (multiportal, uniportal or even subxiphoid). The medical literature is getting rich of papers focused on the above-mentioned techniques. Workshops and conferences are organized everywhere.

This book is a collection of papers, recently published by experts in the field of thymic surgical pathology from all over the world with the aim of giving a complete overview about the minimal invasive thymectomy. In its three sections, Summary, VATS Thymectomy and Robotic Thymectomy, the authors highlight indications, technical details and outcomes providing several insights both to surgeons in training and experienced surgeons. There are still some open issues to be discussed in order to reach a large consensus but the aim of this book is to create a good basis for discussion and critical thinking. Far be it from us to be dogmatic!

It's an honor for me to have the possibility to introduce you to this textbook and I hope you can read it with the same enthusiasm and passion of all the authors, editors and the AME publishing company.



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