Ultrasonography is complex and technically challenging. It requires knowledge of physics, instrumentation, ultrasound anatomy, pathology, and, most importantly, scanning technique. Small handheld scanners make the concept of ultrasonography as an extension of the physical examination a real possibility. Its utility has expanded to almost all organs and systems of the human body, for diagnostic and/or therapeutic purposes. The authors, some of them pioneers of this technique, have made a successful attempt to present this method, in all its complex aspects, in Romanian, as well as the standards that ultrasonography has reached at the beginning of the XXIst century.

The structure of the book comprises three volumes. Volume one (edited in 2000, editors: RI Badea, SM Dudea, PA Mircea, F Stamatian) was dedicated to the basic principles of diagnostic ultrasound, the ultrasound examination of the abdomen and the ultrasound examination and its utility in obstetrics and gynecology. Volume two (edited in 2006, editors: RI Badea, SM Dudea, PA Mircea, D Zdrenghea) was dedicated to the ultrasonographic examination of the head, neck, thorax, and cardiovascular system.

Volume three comprises four parts. Part one is dedicated to the ultrasonographic examination of the musculoskeletal system and of smooth superficial structures (skin and subcutaneous tissue). Part two refers to pediatric ultrasound and emphasizes the value of this technique in health and disease in the pediatric population. Part three is dedicated to intervention ultrasound, from techniques, materials, indications, limitations and benefits of such procedures to different approaches used for diagnosis and/or treatment of specific pathologies. Part four presents the future of ultrasonography as technique and utilization, in the view of current knowledge.

The book offers a complex and complete view of ultrasonography today and of its perspective. The text is accompanied by a generous offer of illustrations of almost all pathology discussed. It is an essential book for the information of all doctors and for the formation of specialists in the expanding field of ultrasonography.

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