

SERIES FOREWORD

Over the past 100 years, there have been incredible medical breakthroughs that have prevented or cured illness in billions of people and helped many more improve their health while living with chronic conditions. A few of the most important 20th-century discoveries include antibiotics, organ transplants and vaccines. The twenty-first century has already heralded important new treatments including such things as a vaccine to prevent human papillomavirus from infecting and potentially leading to cervical cancer in women. Polio is on the verge of being eradicated worldwide, making it only the second infectious disease behind smallpox to ever be erased as a human health threat.

In this series, experts from many disciplines share with readers important and updated medical knowledge. All aspects of health are considered including subjects that are disease specific and preventive medical care. This information will help individuals to improve their health as well as researchers to determine where there are gaps in our current knowledge and policy makers to assess the most pressing needs in healthcare. Dr. Finestone has authored a very personal yet informative book on pain. You will enjoy his insights and practical approach to a complex problem.

Series Editor Julie K. Silver, M.D.

Assistant Professor

Harvard Medical School

Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation