

# Foreword

Uniportal VATS is one of the innovative procedures that have revolutionized the field of minimally invasive thoracic surgery in the past 10 years. In spite of the lack of definitive and much awaited evidence of its role in the thoracic surgical armamentarium compared to traditional three port VATS or open surgery, surgeons are increasingly attracted to this approach and the trend is not subsiding. From the maintenance of bodily psycho-somatic integrity (ie, *Chi*) to the prompt return to the daily activities in the pain-free scenario provided by one small incision, uniportal VATS is being taught and learnt with an unprecedented rapidity given its undoubted safety and feasibility. Indeed, the concept of single port VATS was initially generated bearing in mind the supreme patient interest by fast-tracking him or her through the hospitalization. In fact, the most recent evolution of the uniportal VATS technique implies performing diagnostic or therapeutic procedures in a non-intubated or even awake patient. This book on Uniportal VATS -edited by Drs, Tan, Sihoe and Liu - comes at the right time to carve in stone the theoretical principles, the technical tips and the current indications of uniportal VATS. The number of experts involved is per se a demonstration of the worldwide interest that this technique has evoked to the point that, today, there is not one routine thoracic surgical procedure which has not been described by uniportal VATS surgeons. The current thoracic surgical armamentarium cannot ignore the role that uniportal VATS is progressively gaining and books like this one – along with the scientifically rigorous outcome analysis soon to be published – will contribute to the transfer of the single port philosophy to the generations to come.

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