

Cellulite

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY AND TREATMENT

Second edition



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PATHOPHYSIOLOGY AND TREATMENT Second edition

edited by

Mitchel P Goldman, MD

*Volunteer Clinical Professor of Medicine/Dermatology
University of California
San Diego, California
USA*

Doris Hexsel, MD

*Preceptor and Coordinator, Cosmetic Dermatology
Department of Dermatology
Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul
Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul
Brazil*

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Alan R. Shalita, M.D.

Distinguished Teaching Professor and Chairman

Department of Dermatology

SUNY Downstate Medical Center

Brooklyn, New York

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Series introduction

Over the past twenty-one years we have edited a series of forty-five volumes relating to the art and science of dermatology. The series has been purposefully broad in content to attract the interest of a large variety of readers, from clinicians to basic scientists, affiliated with universities, industry, and in private practice.

The past decade has seen an explosion in interest in aesthetic dermatology. Significant advances have been made in cosmetic science and in new instrumentation for the treatment of aesthetic problems. Thus, a new focus has developed on the science of skin care both from the point of view of the practitioner as well as industry.

The latest addition to this series, *Cellulite: Pathophysiology and Treatment*, is the second edition of this popular work and

demonstrates that the need for new information is compelling. The authors, Drs Mitchel Goldman and Doris Hexsel, not only are distinguished authorities in the field in their own right, but also have assembled a coterie of other distinguished contributors. We trust that this volume will again be of broad interest to scientists and clinicians alike.

ALAN R. SHALITA, M.D., Sc.D(hon)
Distinguished Teaching Professor and Chairman
Department of Dermatology
SUNY Downstate Medical Center
Brooklyn, NY, U.S.A.

Preface

Artists in painting and sculpture over the last two millennia have perceived beauty in a woman's figure as consisting in few muscles and a thick layer of subcutaneous fat. However, within the last four decades, there has been a radical change in perception, with today's society defining the ideal female body as youthful and almost pre-pubertal; well-defined musculature with very little body fat is now the ideal. This recent definition of beauty has led to the development of a new medical "disease," cellulite.

Cellulite can best be described as a normal physiologic state in post-adolescent women whose purpose is to maximize adipose retention to ensure adequate caloric availability for pregnancy and lactation. Almost all women who are not cachectic have cellulite.

The topic of cellulite appears every month on multiple television medical and talk shows, as well as in the lay public women's health magazines (which often show the cellulite in various female celebrities caught wearing a bathing suit, without the benefit of the air brushing that their publicity photographs undergo). Demand for the treatment of cellulite has become extremely popular: "90% of women have cellulite and the other 10% think they do." Sales of various topical therapies constitute a multimillion-dollar

business; it is estimated that the sales of cellulite equipment is over 30 million dollars each year.

It is therefore time for a comprehensive textbook on the pathophysiology and treatment of cellulite. This subject is not taught in medical schools nor in residency training programs and there are few medical publications in the English language on this subject. As patients go to their physicians (mostly cosmetic and plastic surgeons and dermatologists) to seek advice on the pathophysiology and treatment of cellulite, physicians will need to educate themselves on this subject.

To this end, we have enlisted the enthusiastic support of some of the world's leaders in cellulite research. These respected professors and clinicians from the USA, Brazil, France, Italy, Argentina, Canada, Thailand and El Salvador are recognized as leaders on this subject. They have published numerous scientific papers on this subject in both their native languages and English. Our role as editors of this work, in addition to contributing separate chapters on our own unique research, is to ensure that this second edition of *Cellulite* is complete and up to date. We look forward to this textbook stimulating further research eventuating improved treatment of this cosmetically important condition.

Mitchel P Goldman
Doris Hexsel

List of contributors

- Marie-Laurence Abella** L'Oréal Recherche, Chevilly-Larue, France
- Fabrizio Angelini** Department of Endocrinology, University of Parma, Parma, Italy
- Mathew Avram** Department of Dermatology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
- Pier Antonio Bacci** University of Siena, and Cosmetic Pathologies Center, Arezzo, Italy
- Marie Bazan** Candela Corporation, Wayland, Massachusetts, USA
- Christiane Bertin** Johnson & Johnson Group of Consumer Companies, Paris, France
- Régine Bousquet-Rouaud** Dermatological Laser Unit, Millennium Clinic, Montpellier, France
- Martin Braun** Vancouver Laser and Skin Care Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
- Cristiano Brum** Brazilian Center for Studies in Dermatology and Santa Casa Hospital Complex, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Jean Chaintreuil** Candela Corporation, Wayland, Massachusetts, USA
- Taciana de Oliveira Dal'Forno** Brazilian Center for Studies in Dermatology, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Zoe Diana Draelos** Department of Dermatology, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina and Dermatology Consulting Services, High Point, North Carolina, USA
- Agustina Vila Echague** Candela Corporation, Wayland, Massachusetts, USA
- Pietro Di Fiore** Sports Medicine and Nutrition, Center for Prevention and Cure of Obesity, Palermo, Italy
- Luca Gatteschi** Sports Medicine Clinic, Florence, Italy
- David J Goldberg** Skin Laser Specialists of NY/NJ, and Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, New York, USA
- Mitchel P Goldman** Department of Dermatology, University of California, San Diego, California, USA
- Mirko Guerra** La Cittadella Socio Sanitaria di Cavarzere, Cavarzere, Italy
- Enrique Hernández-Pérez** Center for Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery, San Salvador, El Salvador
- José Enrique Hernández-Pérez** Center for Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery, San Salvador, El Salvador
- Mauricio Hernández-Pérez** Center for Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery, San Salvador, El Salvador
- Camile Luisa Hexsel** Department of Dermatology, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan, USA
- Doris Hexsel** Department of Dermatology, Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Gustavo Leibaschoff** University of Buenos Aires School of Medicine, and International Union of Lipolasty, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Woraphong Manuskiatti** Department of Dermatology, Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Fulvio Marzatico** Laboratory of Pharmacobiochemistry, Health Nutriceutical and Nutrition Research, University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy
- Rosemarie Mazzuco** Brazilian Center for Studies in Dermatology, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Serge Mordon** INSERM, Lille University Hospital, Lille, France
- Alex Nkengne** Johnson & Johnson Group of Consumer Companies, Paris, France
- Carmine Orlandi** Istituto di Ricerche Cliniche Ecomedica, Empoli, Italy
- Michail M Pankratov** Eleme Medical, Inc., Merrimack, New Hampshire, USA
- Débora Zechmeister do Prado** Brazilian Center for Studies in Dermatology, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Massimo Rapetti Istituto di Ricerche Cliniche Ecomedica, Empoli, Italy

Ana Beatris Rossi Research and Development, Johnson & Johnson Group of Consumer Companies, Paris, France

Neil S Sadick Department of Dermatology, Weill Medical College of Cornell University and Sadick Dermatology, New York, New York, USA

Gordon H Sasaki Sasaki Advanced Aesthetic Medical Center, Pasadena, California and Linda Loma University Medical Center, Linda Loma, California, USA

Mariana Soirefmann Brazilian Center for Studies in Dermatology, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Attilio Speciani Eurosalus, Milan, Italy

Amanda Stapenhorst Brazilian Center for Studies in Dermatology, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Jane Unaeze Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, New York, USA

Molly Wanner Department of Dermatology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Magda B Weber Department of Dermatology, Federal University of Health Science, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

