



**Atlas
of Pediatric and
Adolescent Gynecology**

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Preface

A malfunctioning computer, the threat of losing valuable pictures and data of patients, led to the development of this ATLAS. The pictures and data were quickly retrieved and transferred to CDs for review. The idea of preserving them for teaching purposes evolved. Ultrasound pictures were retrieved together with the histopathological slides of diagnosed tumors, vaginoscopy and laparoscopy videos, videos and still pictures of surgeries (laparotomies and vaginal repairs of malformations of the genital tract). These were all collated and the authors selected those that had teaching values; those that were relatively rare and those that had good follow-up.

Other specialists from other institutions such the National Institute of Health, University of the Philippines, UP Child Protection Unit, Makati Medical Center and St. Luke's Medical Center were tapped to contribute to the Atlas. Other colleagues that form part of the multidisciplinary team of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology Unit of the Philippine Children's Medical Center, such as the Pediatric Urologist and Adolescent Medicine specialists, were invited to write a chapter. A graphic artist, with the guidance of the authors, was hired to sketch the majority of the 27 illustrations found listed before the index.

The 19 chapters truly represent the collaborative effort of 16 specialists of varied expertise in the care of girls with gynecologic problems in the Philippines. More than 300 pictures, 50% of which are in color, and 27 illustrations are worth preserving in a book form not only for teaching purposes but for providing evidences for medical students, general medical practitioners, pediatricians, gynecologists, surgeons, parents and the girls themselves. There is hope of survival for those with cancer. Fertility can be preserved with proper diagnosis. Reconstructive and restorative surgery of the genital tract can provide sexual function. Most important of all, if you don't look for it, you won't find it --- a lesson to be learned in doing a thorough examination of a girl even as a newborn and in early infancy, so that measures can be done before it is too late.

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