This issue of Veterinary Clinics of North America: Small Animal Practice focuses on minimally invasive surgery (MIS). MIS is an ever-expanding field in veterinary medicine and surgery. We have definitely gone beyond diagnostic endoscopy and greatly developed our range of therapeutic procedures. It seems that we are not only discovering the utility of procedures currently done in people, but we are also expanding MIS in veterinary patients through the creativity of people like the authors in this issue. Becoming more aggressive in types of procedures requires, and has benefited from, advances in technology, and veterinarians have been exposed to the new technology in a relatively rapid fashion. Performing more challenging procedures also requires vigilant patient care and monitoring during and after MIS. Our colleagues in anesthesia have kindly supported and tolerated our endeavors! A multidisciplinary approach is extremely helpful and appreciated. This issue has also examined advances in laparoscopic, flexible endoscopic, thoracoscopic, and urinary tract procedures. The future is certainly rife with soon to be discovered advances that will surpass those of this issue, and we welcome the hard work of clinicians that challenge themselves, and us, to do more with MIS. With advancement comes side effects, complications, and conditions of which to be aware, and for which we must monitor. Finally, MIS is becoming more prevalent in veterinary surgery, and advancement of training and maintaining skills in the field will be part of the future in training veterinary surgeons and others interested in this ever-expanding field.

I send a hearty THANK YOU to the contributing authors for this issue. Your work on these articles, and in the advancement of MIS in veterinary medicine and surgery, is
greatly appreciated. It is hoped that this issue is a resource, and source, of inspiration for current and future veterinarians, and for further development in the field.

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