

Pharmacologic Principles of Medical Practice. Fourth Edition. By JOHN C. KRANTZ, JR., Professor of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Maryland, and C. JELLEFF CARR, Senior Research Pharmacologist, National Institute of Mental Health. Cloth \$14.00. Pp. 1313, with 57 illustrations. The Williams and Wilkins Co., Mount Royal and Guilford Aves., Baltimore 2, Maryland, 1958.

The senior author of this text-book is known to most anesthesiologists as a man who has done a great deal of research on anesthetic agents. Although the text is designed for medical students and physicians, the author's interest has caused him to produce a volume of special merit for anesthesiologists. A major section of the book is devoted to discussion of drugs which affect the central nervous system, including anesthetics, other depressants, and stimulants. In addition, drugs which affect the autonomic nervous system, and the heart and circulation are discussed at length. In writing about these subjects, the authors not only present the latest in pharmacological information, but also include many considerations of clinical interest to anesthesiologists which are ordinarily not found in a text-book on pharmacology.

This book is written in a clear and simple style. Instead of making dogmatic statements, the authors cite the particular article or experiment which reports certain phenomenon, so that the reader is readily able to find the source material and understand the basis for the conclusions. In this, the greatest level of accuracy has been maintained.

This volume has been printed on good paper. The illustrations, formulas, and tabular material are clear. A list of references is included at the end of each chapter. There is a detailed and accurate index.

The text-book is recommended for medical students and physicians, and is of particular interest to those physicians whose special interest is in the field of anesthesiology.

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Anesthesia and Otolaryngology. By DONALD F. PROCTOR, M.D., Assistant Professor of Laryngology and Otology, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore. Cloth \$7.00. Pp. 267, with 33 illustrations. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, Maryland, 1957.

Many of the difficulties which beset the anesthesiologist in carrying out his work arise from lack of understanding between himself and the surgeon. This is especially likely to occur in the case of such a specialty as otolaryngology since the areas of activity are overlapping or contiguous. "Anesthesia and Otolaryngology" is almost unique in that the author is experienced both as otolaryngologist and anesthesiologist. Thus the problems are stated with clarity from both viewpoints and practical solutions are offered.

This book is divided into four sections. The first of these, entitled "General Considerations," deals with such important subjects as pre-operative preparation of the patient, pulmonary ventilation during anesthesia, post anesthetic care and medicolegal considerations. Sections two and three are devoted to techniques and management of procedures under general and local anesthesia respectively. Probably any anesthesiologist would find himself disagreeing with some of the opinions and techniques of the author. Cases in point are the necessity of endotracheal intubation for tonsillectomy and the choice of local versus general anesthesia for endoscopic procedures in children. No one could differ, however, with the sound fundamental principles which are repeatedly emphasized. The statistics, based upon a substantial number of cases, testify by the low morbidity and mortality rates to the success of his methods in the author's hands.

The last section entitled "Other Aspects of Problems Common to Anesthesiology and Otolaryngology" deals with respiratory resuscitation, high airway obstruction, problems of ventilation in the unconscious patient and respiratory resuscitation in the newborn. The first and last sections of the book deal with matters which are of importance not only to those specialists mentioned in the title, but to all who participate in the management of patients undergoing surgery, comatose patients, and patients with respiratory difficulties.