

dication of the level of energy carried in the ADP/ATP system" is not much of an explanation to the uninitiated.

But these are isolated lacunae that stand out because of the excellence of the material in which they are embedded and do not alter the fact that this volume constitutes a masterpiece of clinical physiologic exposition. Every reader of this review should hasten to acquire and study a copy. Would-be borrowers are likely to be disappointed. Few owners will want to risk losing theirs.

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Principles and Practice of Inhalation Therapy.

By JIMMY ALBERT YOUNG and DEAN CROCKER.
Chicago, Year Book Medical Publishers, Inc.,
1970. \$10.95.

The prominent position and outstanding experience of these authors has made the publication of this textbook an event eagerly awaited. It is doubly disappointing, therefore that poor organization and very careless editing detract significantly from the value of this volume.

The authors state in the preface that the book is an outgrowth of the course structure of an Inhalation Therapy training program. This is made evident by the free use of rhetorical questions and colloquial expressions.

There are a number of errors in almost every chapter. For example, on page 21 the definition of the carina is clearly confused with that of the hilum of the lung. On page 22, the heart is placed on the left hemithorax, rather than in it; on page 28 air uptake should read air intake. On page 31 this reviewer failed to understand the meaning of the second paragraph under the heading "Inspiratory Center." On page 33, maximum breathing capacity is given as 90 l. per minute.

Chapter III, "Respiration and the Atmosphere," has "Composition of Air" as its first subheading. Under this subheading a number of topics are included—such as temperature, pressure, gas transport in the blood. The one topic which is only mentioned in passing is "composition of the air." The remainder of this chapter deals with such assorted subjects as hyperbaric oxygenation, circulation and electrocardiography.

In Chapter IV, "Manufacture, Transport and Storage of Gases," a discussion of the gas laws is

sandwiched in between "Recommended Safe Practices" and "Regulatory Authorities."

In Chapter V, Thomas Beddoes is claimed to have used oxygen for the first time in therapy in 1880. This seems unlikely since Beddoes died on Christmas Eve in 1808 and almost certainly was not the first to use oxygen therapeutically.

In Chapter VI, on page 96, the principles of ultrasonic nebulization are not clear, and on page 99 the term "Glossary" is clearly an error for "Appendix."

In Chapter VII, "Sterilization," no mention is made of the dangers of ethylene oxide sterilization and the essential requirement of aeration after sterilization is omitted.

The chapter on Chest Physiotherapy is excellent, but it is regrettable that no mention is made of the benefits of cooperation between the physiotherapist and the inhalation therapist.

The discussion of mechanical ventilators (page 215) is said to be taken from Mapleson, but no reference is given at the end of the chapter.

The chapters on pulmonary function testing and environmental control systems are satisfactory. The chapter on "order writing" is excellent, and this is the first book to present this important subject in detail.

The final chapters on national organizations and educational requirements are important; it is a pity that both of these areas changed materially while this book was in press.

One of the greatest pleasures of a reviewer is to be able to welcome an important new contribution in an area where there is little satisfactory printed material available. The inhalation therapy literature is extremely limited, and the only complete textbook is "Fundamentals of Inhalation Therapy," by Donald F. Egan. The "Inhalation Therapy Procedure Manual" by DeKornfeld and Gilbert was not intended to be used as a textbook, and the soft-cover "Introduction to Inhalation Therapy" by Stanton Belinkoff is good but not sufficiently detailed.

The inhalation therapy book market is rapidly increasing, and the growing number of inhalation therapists are the most avid book-buyers of any group in this reviewer's experience. Many of them actually read the books they purchase.

It is to be hoped that a second edition of Young's and Crocker's work will rectify the irritating editorial mistakes and will take the place in the literature of inhalation therapy it would deserve.

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