BOOK REVIEWS

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Automatic Ventilation of the Lungs. Third edition. By William W. Mushin, L. Rendell-Baker, Peter W. Thompson, and W. W. Mapelson. London, Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1980. Pages: 887. Price: $103.00.

This is the third edition of a comprehensive, authoritative, up-to-date book dealing with automatic ventilation of the lungs. The authors have organized the book in such a manner that the physiologic, clinical, and engineering considerations given to ventilators, as well as a historical perspective, are discussed in the early chapters. These chapters give insight into the problems with operation, control, applications, laboratory testing, the current philosophy of design, and the history of modern-day ventilators. This discussion is followed by a number of chapters devoted to the individual operations and applications of a significant number of ventilators. The book also has appendices containing current definitions of terminology, acronyms, and a list of manufacturers.

Many chapters found in the second edition have been revised. An example is the addition to the historical background of a discussion of fluidics technology. This particular chapter contains an excellent description of the history of fluidic technology and its application to ventilator control. This discussion is quite complete, and this is one of the few books that correctly distinguishes between the terminology of fluidics and fluerics. Each chapter that discusses ventilators presents pictures, schematics, brief descriptions, and functional analyses of the devices. The operational features presented for each particular ventilator are typical features many of us have experienced in the application of these devices.

The book is very clearly written, well illustrated, and well referenced. It is necessary reading for all clinicians concerned with artificial ventilation of patients in the operating room, intensive care areas, or emergency rooms. All medical, anesthesiology and intensive care libraries should have this book. It is directly applicable to instruction of residents of various disciplines with a "need to know" about ventilators.

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Self-Assessment of Current Knowledge in Anesthesiology. Second edition. By David L. Trickey and Associate Contributor Farhan Sheikh. Garden City, New Jersey, Medical Examination Publishing Company, Inc., 1980. Pages: 200. Price: $14.00.

This book contains 807 multiple-choice questions with answers referenced to current anesthesiology journals and texts. Seven major areas of anesthesiology (outlined in the table of contents) have been developed as questions. These are expanded to include intravenous and general anesthesia, obstetric, regional and neonatal anesthesia, hepatic and renal physiology, medicine and anesthetic metabolism, neurosurgical and hypertensive anesthesia, neuromuscular blocking agents, pulmonary medicine and anesthesia, shock, general medicine, physiology and pharmacology, cardiology and cardiothoracic anesthesia. In addition to factual information extracted from various journal articles, case histories dealing with many clinical problems are presented.

As stated by the authors, "The purpose of this text is to stimulate the reader to test his knowledge of recent developments in anesthesia. The reader should not be alarmed at how many of these questions he may answer incorrectly, for the aim is not to achieve a high score, but to learn and keep abreast of the ongoing advances in this field."

The authors do meet this objective. Many of the questions are stimulating and are well written. However, as in all books dealing with questions, some appear to be ambiguous, and it is difficult to understand the exact intention. However, the book is enjoyable and recommended for anesthesiologists interested in evaluating and assessing their understanding of current literature. It is easy to read and does not require a significant amount of time from a busy schedule to complete.

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Anesthetic Considerations for Pediatric Cardiac Surgery (International Anesthesiology Clinics). Edited By Paul A. Radnay and Hideo Nagashima. Boston, Little, Brown, Spring 1980. Pages: 240.

This book of 14 chapters contains both practice and theory concerning preoperative assessment and management, intraoperative management, and postoperative care, as each relates to the pediatric cardiac patient. Included are separate chapters on cardiopulmonary bypass and hyothermia. Of 18 contributing authors, nine are faculty members of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. While most of the writers are anesthesiologists, several pediatric cardiologists provide valuable chapters.

Following a brief introductory historical review, an early chapter deals extensively with pathophysiologic features of both common and uncommon congenital cardiac lesions. When combined with a chapter on cardiac catheterization, a framework is provided for solid assessment of the preoperative cardiovascular status. Several chapters then address anesthetic management of cardiac catherization and surgery of the heart or great vessels with and without bypass. These vary in format from detailed presentation of individual approaches supported by their rationales to a less formal approach with practical hints for management. Many will disagree with some of the concepts presented, *e.g.*, the inclusion of ketamine in a discussion of sedatives and a discussion of acceptable arterial oxygen tensions in premature infants. A concise chapter summarizes means of production of, as well as the pathophysiology of, hypothermia. Considerable overlap occurs in two chapters concerning arrhythmias, although their perspectives are quite different. Finally, postoperative complications are discussed by authors from a single institution and are well done.

Do not mistake this for a cookbook of anesthetic techniques in pediatric cardiac surgery. Rather, its intent, as its title suggests, is to