

additional information. This book should be included in all anesthesia libraries.

JERRY M. CALKINS, M.D., PH.D.  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Anesthesiology*  
*Arizona Health Sciences Center*  
*Tucson, Arizona 85724*

**To Make the Patient Ready for Anesthesia: Medical Care of the Surgical Patient.** EDITED BY LEROY D. VANDAM. Menlo Park, Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., 1980. Pages: 245. Price: \$24.95.

This book was written by members of the Medical Department of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and sets forth their philosophy of medical preoperative preparation of surgical patients. Clear, concise essays of pertinent problems of the major organ systems which concern anesthesiologists are presented. Included are discussions of the circulatory system (strong emphasis on the heart and very light emphasis on the circulation), respiratory system, liver, kidney, endocrinology, hematology, neurologic and psy-

chiatric problems, as well as a welcomed chapter on dental and oral problems. The book is an excellent review of general medical problems that plague the anesthesiologist daily.

It has certain drawbacks: I found the marginal highlights to be distracting and less useful than the rather complete Table of Contents and Index for finding information. Only one point of view is given and occasionally the authors' prejudices are different from mine. Moreover, some controversial statements are made about documentation or references. Occasionally, as on preoperative consultations, the authors could not resist the temptation to discuss anesthesia.

The concept of the book, however, is so fundamental that one wonders why it was not published sooner. It is one of the few books which I believe every anesthesiologist (and surgeon) should read, re-read, and digest.

R. DENNIS BASTRON, M.D.  
*Associate Professor, Anesthesiology*  
*College of Medicine*  
*Arizona Health Sciences Center*  
*Tucson, Arizona 85724*