rather surprising omission is the evaluation of right heart function in the potential transplant recipient. Transplantation is not mentioned anywhere in this book.

The chapter on monitoring is surprisingly disappointing. On the positive side, the pulmonary artery (PA) catheter, transesophageal echocardiography, and the ECG all are discussed in some detail, and there is a very good analysis of PA pressure waveforms with representative tracings. However, where I expected to find anatomic drawings, there are only pictures of the catheters and introducers. Neither the controversy about the indications for PA catheters, nor the various types of catheters (oxygen saturation, pacing, right ventricular ejection fraction), is mentioned. There are no "tricks of the trade" given for the patient in whom either access or flotation is difficult. In the echocardiography section, there are no figures to aid the discussion. Finally, a reference on the sensitivity of ECG leads V5 and II in detecting ischemia is misquoted and implies that these two leads detect 100% of ischemia after exercise. In fact, this sensitivity was achieved only with leads II, aVf, and V3–V6.

In the next chapters (myocardial revascularization and valvular disorders), the editors redeem themselves with excellent presentations of pathophysiology and the basis of anesthetic management. There is some repetition of anesthetic technique (the usual opioid-based technique is recommended throughout) where I would have preferred more discussion; however, these chapters provide a very good summary of current knowledge and clinical practice.

Congenital disease, pericardial disease, and emergency surgery are presented clearly, in well-written, concise chapters. Management of cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) and myocardial preservation are also nicely summarized, and up-to-date concepts and modern techniques are presented. Autotransfusion is mentioned, but this important subject is not discussed (with regard to rationale and techniques).

The chapter on central nervous system injury is a comprehensive and detailed review with many references to experimental work, and concludes that "it is currently impossible to justify quantitative recommendations regarding any isolated individual parameter or technique during CPB." In contrast, the postoperative care section offers many specific recommendations and very little discussion, although some of the suggestions may not be widely accepted. (For instance, "Solu-Medrol 125 mg iv" is suggested for fever >39.5° C.) The profound contrast between these last two chapters reflects the different authorship.

This book does a good job of summarizing the pathophysiology of surgical cardiac disease and the various phases of operative management. There are some clear strengths, but also some deficiencies as outlined above. As it stands, with these reservations, it can be recommended as a well-written, relatively inexpensive, concise introduction to the practice of cardiac anesthesia.

JAMES G. RAMSAY, M.D., F.R.C.P.(C.)
Associate Professor of Anesthesiology
Department of Anesthesiology
Emory University School of Medicine
1364 Clifton Road, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30322

ERRATUM

The Reply by Rosenberg (Rosenberg H: Reply to Safety of general anesthesia in patients previously tested negative for malignant hyperthermia susceptibility. ANESTHESIOLOGY 73:582, 1990) should include Gregory C. Allen, M.D. and Jeffrey E. Fletcher, Ph.D., Department of Anesthesiology, Hahnemann University as coauthors.