advocate use of "triple H therapy" for the management of cerebral vasospasm based on clinical experience, despite the lack of controlled, randomized studies to prove the treatment's effectiveness. One area of much-current controversy and research that receives relatively superficial and anecdotal discussion is the use of moderate hypothermia in the setting of acute brain trauma. This is unfortunate, but not the rule; other timely topics (e.g., thrombolitics for acute ischemic stroke, hyperventilation in the management of head trauma) receive more balanced and complete treatment. Clearly, this book is not a replacement for a text about neurosurgical anesthesia or the anesthetic treatment of patients with neurologic disease. In fact, the discussion of anesthetic management tends to be superficial, of the "cook book" variety, or is frankly wrong. There are, for example, statements that etomidate should be given slowly for a rapid-sequence induction, that a nonrebreather mask delivers 100% oxygen, and that the hallmark of a good neuroanesthetic is "...deep anesthesia with neuromuscular blockade during intracranial microdissection..." Similarly, statements that a patient undergoing aneurysm clipping requires volume loading with albumin, placement of a central line, topical administration of lidocaine to the airway, and the use of a low-dose opioid technique reflect, at best, local biases that are not shared by the reviewers. Overall, Neurologic and Neurosurgical Emergencies is a scientifically grounded, thorough, and practical compendium of the issues surrounding the medical and surgical management of acute neurologic and neurosurgical conditions. The book is neither intended nor suited to be a stand-alone text for the anesthesiologist. It is, therefore, best viewed as a reference or resource for the anesthesiology trainee or the practicing anesthesiologist seeking a comprehensive review of the rationale for the clinical management of a broad range of neurologic and neurosurgical emergencies. In this regard, the book succeeds in achieving its stated purpose and will be a welcome addition to the departmental library.

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(Accepted for publication January 24, 2000.)


The use of regional anesthetic techniques has greatly increased in recent years and numerous new approaches, especially those for peripheral nerve blocks, have been recently described. Although we know from large surveys that regional anesthesia is safe, complications may occur even in hands of experienced anesthesiologists. To increase knowledge of complications associated with regional anesthesia, a free phone line has been created in France. The principle relies on the constant availability of an expert who responds to questions asked by participants. Our experience with the French system has made us aware of the need for expert advice when addressing complications of regional anesthesia. Therefore, it would seem that a book that aims to address the complications and the adverse reactions that are associated with regional anesthesia is welcome in this context. Complications of Regional Anesthesia is a timely publication that specifically addresses the complications related to regional anesthesia. Fortunately, this task has been performed by a team of experts under the supervision of Brendan T. Finucane, and has resulted in a book that should find its place in the library of every anesthesiologist—not only trainees, but also practitioners.

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(Accepted for publication January 24, 2000.)