

they will especially enjoy the participant interchanges that follow each section, area and consideration.

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**Pain—from Symptom to Treatment.** By MANUEL M. VILLAVERDE AND C. WRIGHT MACMILLAN. New York, Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1977. Pages: 337. Price: \$22.50.

The authors of this book have set themselves an almost impossible goal: provide a guide to the management of pain, given a specific anatomic locus (e.g., head or abdomen). From the perspective of a patient suffering agonizing pain this may be laudable. From the physician's point of view, conversely, this approach largely ignores the underlying disease process. In this book, pain of all sorts is treated almost indiscriminately with analgesics or, rarely, with topical anesthetics. Nerve blocks, physical methods, psychological management—not to mention acupuncture—are, if not ignored, dismissed.

The book's introductory quarter superficially describes the many drugs used to combat pain. Much valuable page space is taken up by trivial details regarding dosage forms and preparations. Being more familiar with them, I glanced at the section dealing with Local Anesthetics. There I find that 20 mg cocaine may cause "serious toxic symptoms"; that procaine is "the most widely used local anesthetic"; and that ". . . lidocaine should be used when epinephrine is contraindicated." The one brief paragraph listing lidocaine's pharmacology is next to useless. Newer local anesthetics such as mepivacaine and bupivacaine are not even mentioned. I suspect that a good pharmacology text will provide more authoritative and more complete information without undue intellectual stress on the reader.

The index lists key words only and evinces little attempt at cross-referencing; the writing style is heavy and dogmatic, often reading as if translated. Flowery words abound, hard facts are few. *Pain* might perhaps be useful to paramedics in isolated regions where medical assistance is not readily available, but anesthesiologists will find little return for the purchase price.

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**Anaesthesia and Recovery Room Techniques.** Second edition. By J. WACHSTEIN. Baltimore, Williams and Wilkins, 1976. Pages: 150. Price: \$7.25 (paperback).

The author presents a technical reference manual that is adaptable to most hospital settings, and gives the student or beginner an overview of the procedures involved in patient care prior to operation and through the postoperative phase.

The book is heavy with descriptions of the clinical apparatus and the specific equipment needed in various settings. It includes a complete chapter on the "Preparation of the Anaesthetic Room," but the writer's approach is technical and deals superficially with anesthetic agents and drugs. She does not mention nursing assessment or the value of an in-depth knowledge of the pharmacologic properties of anesthetic agents and drugs. In sum, the text is a truly excellent "how to" manual—how to position a patient on the operating room table, how to support an airway, etc.—but says little about "why."

The book is approached from a general application standpoint

and is adequate to the realm of performance of certain aspects of patient care.

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**Respiratory Diseases.** Second edition. By J. CROFTON AND A. DOUGLAS. Oxford, Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1975. Pages: 776. Price: \$65.00.

This book encompasses a large volume of information relating to many commonly occurring respiratory diseases, as well as many of the more exotic entities seen only rarely in clinical practice.

The authors begin in traditional fashion, with a brief description of structure and function of the lung. This is followed by a short but concise chapter on the epidemiology, which provides a useful perspective for consideration of the various conditions subsequently described. Prefacing the discussions of individual diseases are four appropriate chapters outlining the clinical manifestations of pulmonary disease, diagnostic methods, principles of chemotherapy, and immunologic aspects of pulmonary disease. The main body of the work, pertaining to individual diseases, primarily emphasizes etiology, epidemiology, pathology, clinical presentation, and outpatient chemotherapy. Discussions of pharmacology, pulmonary physiology, and treatment of physiologic abnormalities have largely been avoided.

Notably absent are attempts to deal with pathologic pulmonary conditions resulting from chest trauma, "shock," surgical procedures, cardio pulmonary bypass, and a host of other insults that frequently lead to the clinical picture commonly referred to as "adult respiratory distress syndrome." Although full consideration of these problems is undoubtedly beyond the scope of this publication and best reserved for a book on "acute respiratory care," their virtual absence from a textbook of respiratory diseases is perhaps misleading. The prevalence of these problems among hospitalized patients probably would justify their inclusion, in abbreviated form, within a textbook of this nature, with appropriate references for those particularly interested in the subject. Another neglected topic is that of pulmonary edema; although this clinical problem used to fall primarily in the jurisdiction of the cardiologists, more recent knowledge of the development of pulmonary edema following localized pulmonary vascular injury suggests this as an area of increasing concern by the respiratory physician. It might, therefore, have been appropriately included in a more detailed fashion than the half page devoted to its consideration, which is extremely confusing to read at best.

The material presented represents a distillation of the authors' knowledge gained through years of clinical practice, teaching, and an "inevitably limited study of the literature." The bibliography is therefore not exhaustive, and the authors have frequently relied upon their own extensive clinical experience in choosing modalities of therapy. As such, the book presents a sound basis for methods of good clinical practice generally accepted in both the United Kingdom and the United States. (Occasional differences in the selections of therapeutic agents primarily reflect differences of availability in the two countries.) The reader, however, may frequently be required to consult other reference sources when researching a particular area.

As the result of good organization and a pleasing style of presentation, the book is readily usable. It has been directed by the authors principally at the "postgraduate" level, and should provide a useful base of information for those particularly interested in pulmonary disease when complemented by other

sources of information concerning physiology, pharmacology, radiography, and acute respiratory care. It is also a good reference book for those who only occasionally have need of information concerning uncommon pulmonary disorders.

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### Books Received

Title & Edition	Author/Editor	Publisher		Pages	Price
		Address, Name, Year			
<b>Review of Allied Health Education: 2</b>	J. Hamburg	Lexington, Ky. The University Press of Kentucky 1977		190	\$ 7.50
<i>Ten commentaries by founders of the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions, illuminating interdisciplinary developments, curriculum innovations, and teaching models and concepts.</i>					
<b>Anesthesiology and Mobile Intensive Care Units</b>	R. Frey E. Nagel P. Safer (Editors)	New York Springer-Verlag New York Inc. 1976		271	\$21.20
<i>International Symposium, with discussions of the recommendations of the "Club of Mainz"; covers planning, treatment, training, research.</i>					
<b>Microbiological Hazards of Infusion Therapy</b>	I. Phillips P. D. Meers P. F. D'Arcy	Littleton, Mass. Publishing Sciences Group, Inc. 1976		186	\$19.50
<i>Discusses containers and closures, growth of microorganisms in infusion fluid, additives, sources of contamination, clinical syndromes and problems.</i>					
<b>Safety in the Operating Theatre</b>	J. Mainland H. Dudley (Editors)	Australia Edward Arnold (Australia) Pty. Ltd. 1976		167	\$18.00
<i>Collates information on patient handling, operating room design, anesthetic equipment, asepsis and operating room procedures.</i>					
<b>Pain: From Symptom to Treatment</b>	M. M. Villaverde C. W. MacMillan	New York Van Nostrand Reinhold 1977		337	\$22.50
<i>A guide for the physician who wants immediate help in diagnosing and treating pain; preceded by a section on the pharmacology of drugs used to combat pain.</i>					
<b>Bronchial Asthma Mechanisms and Therapeutics</b>	E. B. Weiss M. S. Segal	Boston Little, Brown 1976		1,076	\$50.00
<i>Guidance to a rational understanding and management of a process unpredictable in its course and often all too difficult to control. 73 chapters in 7 sections on epidemiology, mechanisms, respiratory physiology, pathology, environmental considerations, diagnostic considerations, treatment and complications.</i>					
<b>Atherosclerosis Reviews, Vol. 1</b>	R. Paoletti A. M. Gotto, Jr.	New York Raven Press 1976		265	\$17.50
<i>Seven comprehensive reviews by specialists from different countries and disciplines, including metabolism, structure, and indications for bypass surgery.</i>					
<b>Physiology of the Heart</b>	A. M. Katz	New York Raven Press 1977		450	\$24.50
<i>Synoptic view of our current understanding of the physiologic and biophysical basis of cardiac function.</i>					

## Books Received (Continued)

Title & Edition	Author/Editor	Publisher		
		Address, Name, Year	Pages	Price
<b>Applied Physiology of Respiratory Care</b>	J. Hedley-Whyte	Boston Little, Brown 1976	551	\$22.50
<i>A guide for physicians and other hospital personnel who care for critically ill patients. General principles, respiratory consequences of specific surgical problems, trauma, problems of specific organ failures, age and obesity, special problems.</i>				
<b>Medical Emergencies, Diagnosis and Management</b>	R. Robinson R. Stott	Philadelphia J. B. Lippincott 1977	214	\$ 9.50
<i>Popular pocket manual for house officers. Chapter titles: Cardiovascular; Respiratory; Gastro-intestinal; Acute Liver Failure; Acute Renal Failure; Endocrine; Neurological; The Overdose; Hypothermia; General Clinical Problems.</i>				

Respiratory diseases and illness, such as asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, allergic rhinitis, and sinusitis, can greatly impair a child's ability to function and are an important cause of missed school days and limitations of activities. Symptoms associated with both mild and more severe manifestations of these respiratory conditions, such as cough, wheeze, congestion, chest pain, shortness of breath