

THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST'S BOOKSHELF

Fundamentals of General Anesthesia for Students and Practitioners of Dentistry.

BY JOHN ADRIANI, M.D., Professor of General Anesthesia, School of Dentistry, Loyola University; Director, Department of Anesthesia, Charity Hospital, New Orleans, Louisiana. Cloth \$6.50. Pp. 213 with 61 illustrations. Charles C Thomas, Publisher, Springfield, Illinois, 1959.

Though there are many good basic textbooks for beginning students of anesthesiology, this one has been directed specifically at dentists and students of dentistry. In this volume Dr. Adriani has condensed and simplified material from his previous publications. He introduced some physiology related to anesthesia, and especially pharmacology of the anesthetic drugs. Methods of administration of anesthesia for dental patients are presented in detail. The hazards of local anesthetic drug reactions are explained. An abbreviation is given of the pharmacologic action of all of the commonly used general anesthetic drugs. Pitfalls most commonly encountered are listed.

An excellent section deals with preanesthetic examination and preparation of the patient for anesthesia. The section on cardiac arrest gives procedures for management of asystole and ventricular fibrillation which is probably beyond the scope of the practice of dentistry. Perhaps all of the methods of manual artificial ventilation need not have been presented since "bag and mask" and "mouth-to-mouth" could suffice. As in previous publications by this author, the line drawings and many photographs are not up to the fine standard of the printing and the binding. Despite these minor criticisms, this book is recommended as a text for dentists, for students of dentistry and for those responsible for their instruction. The sections especially recommended are those in which caution is urged in office practice of anesthesia, and in application of the various techniques requiring considerable technical skill. In questionable circumstances, consultation with a physician is urged throughout the text.

D. W. EASTWOOD, M.D.

Cyclopropane Anesthesia. Second Edition.

BY BENJAMIN HOWARD ROBBINS, B.A., M.S., M.D. Professor of Anesthesiology and Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; Anesthesiologist-In-Chief Vanderbilt University Hospital. Cloth \$9.00. Pp. 293, illustrated with 74 figures and 54 tables. The Williams & Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1958.

This comprehensive, concise and authoritative volume is composed of 12 chapters. It presents an up-to-date discussion of cyclopropane anesthesia, and a much needed evaluation of the scientific literature pertaining to this agent which has appeared since the publication of the first edition 18 years ago. The chemical and physical properties of cyclopropane, the pharmacologic effects of cyclopropane on the circulatory and respiratory systems, as well as on the blood, gastrointestinal tract and various other tissues are discussed in detail.

A study of the concentration of cyclopropane required for the various levels of anesthesia and for respiratory arrest is presented, including a correlation of electroencephalographic findings with arterial concentrations of cyclopropane in man. A detailed discussion dealing with the clinical administration of cyclopropane includes the technics preferred by the author, as well as those favored by other prominent anesthesiologists such as Griffith, Waters, Guedel, Eversole, Sise, Woodbridge, and Schmidt.

The complications which may occur during or following anesthesia, as well as the indications and contraindications for the use of cyclopropane are discussed in detail. A chapter is devoted to the use of muscle relaxant agents during cyclopropane anesthesia.

This book is written in an effective, straight forward style which is easy to understand. Numerous references and accurate quotations from other authorities are included throughout the text. The bibliography includes 353 references. The illustrations are clear, and the general format of the book is excellent.