

BOOK REVIEWS

of medical therapy less than a century ago: Brödel almost died from typhoid fever and from a streptococcal infection in his arm that had been acquired during a pelvic dissection. Also, the diseases that killed several close family members—a sister and brother-in-law, a niece and young daughter—would be cured easily today. Most important, the book presents a fascinating account of a talented and modest man who worked hard to establish high standards for medical illustration. Readers interested in this period of American medical history will find the book rewarding.

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Anesthesia and Neurosurgery. Third Edition. Edited by J. E. Cottrell and D. S. Smith. St. Louis, Mosby Year Book, 1994. Pages: 798. Price: \$115.00.

During the past several years, we have witnessed an explosive growth in the neurosciences. These advances have made our ability to understand and treat neurologic illness possible. Innovations in neuroanesthetic and neurosurgical treatment modalities not only have entailed pharmacologic and equipment advances but have expanded to include chemotherapy, neuroradiology, and neurologic intensive care. The eagerly awaited 3rd edition of *Anesthesia and Neurosurgery* represents a timely addition to the currently available texts concerning the anesthetic management of patients with neurologic problems.

The book is organized into four sections dealing with topics that range from physiology and biochemistry to anesthetic management during the perioperative period. This format allows a thorough, multifaceted approach to all aspects of patient care. The major strength of this text is the comprehensive nature of each chapter. Each section is organized to provide the reader with a complete scientific and clinical analysis of the topic. The authors have used a new chapter format that permits more focused reading. Logistically, this format allows for a concise review with a smooth problem-solving methodology that any clinician can appreciate.

Part I covers biochemistry and physiology and contains excellent discussions on cerebral blood flow, metabolism, cerebrospinal fluid, and pharmacology. The chapter by Sakabe and Nakakimura is noteworthy as an exhaustive and encyclopedic review of the effects of anesthetic agents. Part II covers diagnostic neuroradiology and monitoring. In particular, the chapter by Laine and Smoker summarizes the essential information required of the anesthesiologist to interpret neuroradiologic films. Part III covers the perioperative period. This section is well organized and includes separate chapters on surgical and anesthetic considerations for several types of neurosurgical procedures. This approach greatly enhances the reader's appreciation of the nuances of various surgical techniques. Part III also contains important new and timely topics including management of procedures involving blood-brain barrier disruption and management of the acutely unstable patient. Part IV covers postoperative and intensive care. Although *Anesthesia and Neurosurgery* is not meant to include a comprehensive discussion of neurologic intensive care, the chapters in this book suffice to cover the basic groundwork in this area.

The 3rd edition of *Anesthesia and Neurosurgery* has assembled a distinguished group of experts to produce the most comprehensive text to date concerning the subspecialty of neuroanesthesiology. This book surpasses boundaries previously set by other textbooks of neuroanesthesia by virtue of its broad-based, well balanced, and knowledgeable approach. The chapters are well written, focused, and contain information educational to both the novice and the expert in neuroanesthesiology. The text is amply illustrated and contains many informative, easy-to-read diagrams. I highly recommend this volume as an essential textbook for any practicing anesthesiologist's library.

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