

David O. Warner, M.D., Editor

A Practical Approach to Cardiac Anesthesia, 3rd Edition. Edited by Frederick A. Hensley, Jr., Donald E. Martin, Glenn P. Gravlee. Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia, 2002. Pages: 733. ISBN: 0-7817-3444-4. Price: \$79.95.

The subspecialty of cardiothoracic anesthesiology has undergone significant change in recent years. Alternative surgical approaches both with and without cardiopulmonary bypass, the increasing utilization of intraoperative transesophageal echocardiography, and the rising popularity of fast-tracking represent but a few of these changes. Editors Hensley, Martin, and Gravlee provide an up-to-date, pragmatic approach to the practice of cardiothoracic anesthesiology with *A Practical Approach to Cardiac Anesthesia, 3rd Edition*. This multi-authored text is the most recent version of a series that has long been popular with residents, fellows, and practicing anesthesiologists. Although not marketed as a comprehensive, authoritative volume, this paperback is nonetheless a substantial book of more than 700 pages with 55 contributing authors, many with national and international prominence.

Like the previous edition of this text, the third edition is organized in an outline format. Each chapter begins with an abbreviated outline that serves as a table of contents for that chapter. This method of organization enhances the "practical" nature of the book, making information on specific topics easy to locate. Although each chapter is organized as an outline, the amount of information under any given subheading varies from one word to lengthy paragraphs, depending on the subject and authors. The 26 chapters are organized into four sections: (1) Anesthetic Management for Cardiac Surgery, (2) Anesthetic Management of Specific Cardiac Disorders, (3) Circulatory Support and Organ Preservation, and (4) Thoracic Anesthesia and Pain Management. References (some only a year old) are included at the end of each chapter. Many chapters contain multiple pictures, tables, algorithms, and graphs.

A number of changes have been made since the second edition of this text was published in 1995. First, many of the authors of the various chapters have changed. Second, transesophageal echocardiography, which had been discussed in several pages within the monitoring chapter of the second edition, now comprises its own chapter. Third, a new chapter describing alternative surgical approaches to cardiac disease has been added. Fourth, chapters devoted to extracorporeal membrane oxygenation and support in both adults and children have been deleted. Finally, chapters have been rewritten to include current concepts, such as fast-tracking.

As with any text, the interests, biases, and local practices of the contributing authors are occasionally present. For instance, the chapter on valvular heart disease might lead one to conclude that open commissurotomy is the primary surgical therapy for aortic and mitral valvular stenosis. Similarly, this chapter indicates that the primary method for quantifying aortic and mitral regurgitation is angiography, when in fact echocardiography is undoubtedly used more often for this indication. The chapter on alternative approaches to cardiac surgery contains an excessive description of robotic surgery, including a table comparing fulcrum effect, tremor filters, and force ratios, that is unlikely to benefit the practicing anesthesiologist and seems out of place in a "practical" text.

Given the number of contributing authors, the editors have done a commendable job of eliminating duplication and redundancy between chapters. In fact, there is so little duplication of information that at first reading, some chapters seem incomplete. For instance, the chapter on postoperative care of the cardiac patient contains extremely brief discussions of tamponade and pneumothorax. However, these topics are covered in detail in the chapter devoted to cardiothoracic emergencies. Similarly, the chapter on cardiac transplantation does not mention heart-lung transplants, a topic later discussed in a chapter about anesthesia for lung surgery.

Although this book is not designed to compare with other authoritative texts, such as those edited by Kaplan and Thys, it is still a valuable resource both for trainees and practicing clinicians. Many chapters, such as those discussing electrophysiology and pacing, congenital heart disease, the pathophysiology of cardiopulmonary bypass, and cardiac transplantation, are quite comprehensive. Numerous recent references and the number of prominent contributing authors lend credibility to the text. *A Practical Approach to Cardiac Anesthesia, 3rd Edition*, compares favorably with other similarly sized volumes (i.e., DiNardo JA, Editor: *Anesthesia for Cardiac Surgery, 2nd Edition*. Stamford, Connecticut, Appleton and Lange, 1998), especially in its discussion of anesthesia and analgesia for thoracic surgery.

In conclusion, I would recommend this book as a thorough yet readable text for the anesthesia trainee and as a quick reference for the practicing anesthesiologist.

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Sedation and Analgesia for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures. Edited by Shobha Malviya, Norah Naughton, Kevin Tremper. Humana Press, Totowa, New Jersey, 2003. Pages: 310. ISBN: 0-89603-863-7. Price: \$125.

The proliferation of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures outside of the traditional operating room environment has brought many challenges to the medical profession. Chief among these is the dilemma of how to provide sedation and analgesia for these varied patients and procedures in a safe environment, often outside of the care of traditional anesthesia providers. Realizing the need for safe and uniform practices, many professional societies have developed guidelines specific for the care of the sedated patient during these procedures. Regulatory agencies have embraced these concepts and have demanded that patients receive the same standard of care, including uniformity of assessments, monitoring, documentation, outcomes measurements, and credentialing and competency of staff, regardless of where or by whom sedation is administered in an institution.

In *Sedation and Analgesia for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures*, the editors have recruited a variety of authors, including physicians, nurses, and scientists, to comprehensively review sedation and analgesia from all realms. The book begins with a short review of the basic physiology of the sedated state, progresses to various clinical guidelines for both the pediatric and adult patient population, and concludes with a very practical section on quality outcomes processes and measurements. Additional chapters included in this very concise and practical review of sedation and analgesia are devoted to pharmacology, assessments, monitoring, and recovery. Tables, graphs, and figures incorporated throughout the book highlight various protocols, regulatory requirements, guidelines, recommended drug dosages, monitoring requirements, and quality measurement tools. All of these will be valuable to a variety of professionals ranging from physicians, to nurses, to hospital administrators as they develop their own sedation and analgesia policies and guidelines.

There are some inconsistencies in the book regarding the depth of details on certain subjects and lack of breadth on other matters. For example, an entire chapter is devoted to opioids in the management of acute pediatric pain, but discussion of analgesia for the adult population is noticeably lacking. I found myself searching for an expansion on patient assessments, medication use, and potential complications associated with sedation and analgesia and wishing that less time had

in which sedation practices are increasing exponentially, this book is a very good resource for practitioners to ensure patient safety and high-quality outcomes when administering sedation and analgesia for this vast array of procedural practices. It is a must-read for anyone who is unfamiliar with the current sedation practices and guidelines promulgated by a number of national professional societies. The book contains sufficient information to help everyone ensure compliance with regulatory standards for sedation care.

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