

Book Reviews

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Rob and Smith's Operative Surgery: Vascular Surgery, 4th ed, ed by Hugh Dudley, David Carter, and James A. DeWeese, St. Louis, CV Mosby, 1985, 459 pp, price not given.

This volume is an up-to-date, comprehensive, and practical guide to the management of patients with peripheral arterial, venous, and lymphatic disease, as well as selected associated conditions frequently managed by vascular surgeons.

Most of the 32 contributing authors were either contemporaries or students of Charles Rob, and his influence is evident. Nine of the contributors are from the United Kingdom or Ireland, nine from the University of Rochester, and the remaining 14 (including Doctor Rob himself) from other locations in the United States. The atlas is beautifully illustrated with clear black-and-white drawings contributed by 16 medical illustrators. The clarity of the drawings may lead the inexperienced reader to believe that some of the surgical techniques are less difficult than they actually are.

Topics covered by the 46 chapters include the standard arterial and venous problems, as well as sympathectomy, amputation in the vascular patient, fasciotomy, carotid body tumors, and angioaccess procedures. In addition, practical chapters deal with related nonsurgical topics of interest to the vascular surgeon, such as angiography, injection therapy of varicose veins, treatment of venous stasis ulcers, sympathetic ganglionic blocking techniques, and the treatment of meralgia paresthetica. The fourth edition has added new chapters about less common conditions, such as vertebral artery stenosis, popliteal entrapment syndrome, thoracic outlet syndrome, surgical treatment of chronic occlusive disease, lymphangiography and lymphatic surgery, and the noninvasive vascular laboratory. New techniques, such as in situ saphenous vein bypass grafting and transluminal angioplasty, are also discussed.

The writing is clear and direct. Each chapter follows a similar format. A short introduction is followed by a discussion of the preoperative evaluation, including diagnosis and indications. Emphasis is on a detailed, illustrated explanation of the particular procedure, followed by a short discussion of postoperative care. A short list of selected references is provided for an in-depth review.

The major criticism involves minor editorial problems. Occasional misspellings are encountered. The illustrations in the chapter about exposure of major blood vessels may not be as clear to the inexperienced surgeon as those in the rest of the book. The chapter dealing with angioaccess discusses only autogenous fistulas. While this reviewer agrees that use of autogenous tissue is preferred, circumstances requiring synthetic alternatives are commonly encountered in a busy practice. Although two chapters about vascular injuries are included, there is little discussion of complications or repeat vascular surgery. A chapter dealing with pediatric vascular surgical problems would also have been useful since, although infrequently encountered, they often represent difficult challenges. These topics may be beyond the intended scope of the text, however.

Despite these relatively minor criticisms, this volume represents a complete, yet compact general reference for the field of peripheral vascular surgery. As such, it should have broad appeal to surgical residents, as well as vascular surgical fellows, although some guidance regarding the relative merits of the procedures illustrated will be required. The text would likely be a useful addition to a teaching institution's surgical reference library. The practicing general surgeon who treats peripheral vascular problems, as well as the vascular surgeon, will find the book handy, especially for review of infrequently encountered problems. The internist with an interest in peripheral vascular disease will also find valuable information dealing with the nonoperative management of vascular patients.

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Burian-Von Noorden's Binocular Vision and Ocular Motility: Theory and Management of Strabismus, 3rd ed, by Gunter K. Von Noorden, St. Louis, CV Mosby, 1985, 520 pp, \$69.95.

The aim of this text is to mold sound physiologic principles theoretically and practically with clinical observation. Into this framework is woven modern psychophysical and neurophysiologic studies. The volume is divided into four sections: physiology of the sensorimotor cooperation, introduction to the neu-

romuscular anomalies, clinical characteristics of neuromuscular anomalies of the eyes, and principles of therapy.

This volume is intended neither to be a systematic guide for an approach to the strabismic patient nor a historically complete expert perspective and judgment of important steps, taken clinically and in the laboratory, toward the understanding of ocular alignment and motility. Although not easy to read, this text would be of considerable value to the student of ocular motility and its disorders, from the ophthalmologist in training to the established practitioner.

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Chemically Induced Birth Defects, vol 2 of the Drug and Chemical Toxicology series, by James L. Schardein, New York, Marcel Dekker, 1985, 904 pp, \$125.00.

This volume is an extensive review of the current state of knowledge about the teratogenic effects of drugs and chemicals. One of the most important services provided by many genetic clinics and birth defect clinics is counseling before and during pregnancy regarding the risk of potentially teratogenic exposure to chemicals and drugs. To facilitate information gathering, a book such as this is indispensable.

The first chapter provides an excellent introduction to the field of teratology. It introduces the basic principles of teratogenesis, manifestations of deviant development, the use of animal models to assess human risk, and the evaluation of human risk. The remainder of the book is divided into two major parts. The first part covers drugs and includes 19 chapters dealing with various categories of drug types, such as cardiovascular renal drugs, anesthetics, hormones and hormone antagonists, and gastrointestinal drugs. The second part deals with chemicals and is also divided by classes, such as pesticides, metals, and industrial solvents. This method of organization is particularly useful to the reader who wants a general overview of each category of drugs, as well as individual compounds. Each chapter contains excellent tables and an extensive bibliography. The book is well indexed so that information about specific drugs or chemicals can be easily located. However, the latest references are from 1983, although the volume was published in 1985. Thus, there is a notable shortcoming in that the chemical teratogenic effects of isotretinoin (Accutane), the anti-acne drug, are only briefly mentioned. Also, the pictures, generally, are of poor quality, and the print is difficult to read. In addition, the author has used several misleading examples of the

effects of drugs and chemicals. The camptomelic syndrome is given as an example of the result of maternal use of oral contraceptives early in pregnancy. While this may be a possibility, most cases of this syndrome appear to be recessively inherited (i.e., most of the cases are genetic and not teratogenic). To suggest otherwise, I believe, is inaccurate.

Chemically Induced Birth Defects is an excellent book, particularly because of its useful tables and extensive bibliography. It should be included as an information source in most hospital and medical school libraries and for those individuals who find themselves doing teratology-related counseling or research.

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The Pediatric Spine, ed by David S. Bradford and Robert Hensinger, New York, Thieme-Stratton, 1985, 533 pp, \$80.00.

This book has been written by authors who are internationally known in their respective fields. The editors, David S. Bradford, who is best known for his work on the spine, and Robert Hensinger, who is a well-respected pediatric orthopedist, have chosen authors to write about topics that comprehensively cover all aspects of the pediatric spine from the development of the vertebral column to the most up-to-date methods of spinal surgery. After a general introductory section, the authors deal with inflammation, trauma, tumors, spinal deformity, spondylolisthesis, and various techniques in spinal surgery. Only the most recent developments in certain aspects of spinal instrumentation are not discussed.

In spite of the number of different chapters by different authors, there is remarkably little overlap. Each chapter is clear and concise and gives a summary of the condition, both historically and with a review of the literature. The clinical features, investigations, and management are outlined and a description of the authors' preferred treatment, if applicable, are a part of each chapter.

Although most figures are radiographs of the spine, each author has managed to choose representative views that are of good quality and the points made in the text can be observed on these figures.

I would recommend this textbook as a must for the libraries of all orthopedic surgeons, pediatric surgeons, and pediatricians.

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