



Z. NICHOLAS ZAKOV, MD, SECTION EDITOR

NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS: A GUIDE FOR PATIENT AND FAMILY

by Steven P. Ringel
Raven Press

This is a unique and excellent guide for patients with neuromuscular disorders and their families, authored by a well-known neuromuscular expert. The entire volume is written in nontechnical terms and describes the nature of common neuromuscular disorders, treatment, and rehabilitation techniques. Particularly useful are the detailed discussions of physical therapy, bracing, nutrition, exercise, emotional support, and dealing with terminally ill patients.

Although more medical information has become readily accessible to patients and their families, this kind of comprehensive book has not been available. Any neurology office or neuromuscular clinic should have at least one copy. This reviewer also found it useful for physicians who often deal more with the technical aspects of diagnosis and therapy. Thus, *Neuromuscular Disorders* is highly recommended for health-care professionals dealing with neuromuscular disorders.

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CLINICAL RECOGNITION OF CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

by Joseph K. Perloff
W. B. Saunders

This is the third edition of *Clinical Recognition of Congenital Heart Disease*. Since the last version, published in 1978, Dr. Perloff has integrated into each specific chapter electrophysiologic and, probably more importantly, echocardiographic advances as they relate to each of the specific diseases. A new chapter about congenital abnormalities of the coronary circulation has also been added. This book remains the most complete review of the clinical approach to congenital heart disease, both in pediatric and adult patients.

Each chapter is a concise guide to the clinical evaluation of almost every form of congenital heart disease. The current thoughts regarding the anatomic abnormalities, known natural history of the condition, and the history that the patient may give are reviewed. The discussion of the physical examination, stressing inspection, palpation, and auscultation, is extremely detailed for each specific diagnosis. The use of ancillary tests, such as electrocardiography, chest radiography, and echocardiography, make the clinical picture quite complete. The only topic that is omitted is the evaluation of mitral valve prolapse.

Pediatricians and internists interested in heart disease, as well as pediatric and adult cardiologists with an interest in congenital heart disease, will benefit by adding this book to their collection.

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PULMONARY PHYSIOLOGY IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

by Lawrence Martin
C. V. Mosby

A well-written paperback aimed primarily at the physician in training, *Pulmonary Physiology in Clinical Practice* is a concept-oriented rather than disease-descriptive textbook. The book succeeds in explaining in a simple fashion the physiologic basis that underlies both normal and deranged pulmonary function in a variety of respiratory illnesses. Consequently, the text lacks specific and complete details regarding epidemiology, pathophysiology, and treatment of major pulmonary diseases, and this is its major limitation.

Each chapter contains case-oriented problems that illustrate major teaching points. A short summary, review questions, and references to textbooks and recent articles covering pertinent topics are included at the end of each chapter. Where appropriate, informative graphs and illustrations are provided to highlight subjects.

The first few sections review the basics of evaluating