

Anaesthesia: Illustrated Clinical Cases

Magnus A Garrioch, W Bosseau Murray
CRC Press 2015

Price £22.99. Pp 320
ISBN 9781840760774

This is a first edition within a series using illustrated clinical cases as teaching and learning tools.

From the off there is a transatlantic feel, with the well-qualified primary editors and contributors hailing from around the UK and USA. This international approach continues throughout with consideration of differences in expression of terminology and units, making it an easier read than those requiring 'translation'.

The 233 cases are presented randomly, covering a variety of topics including anatomy, equipment, the basic sciences and of course statistics. They are excellently presented, often as clinical scenarios, with largely clear and concise answers. The text is further complemented by an almost decadent number of clear and colourful figures and photos

which assist in both comprehension and readability.

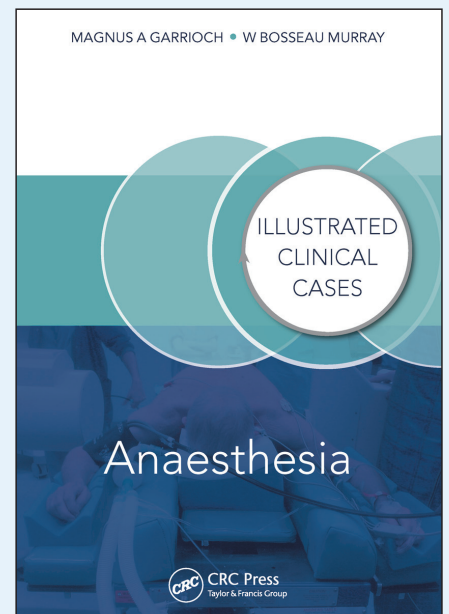
It is promoted as a resource to complement training in anaesthesia for both UK and US doctors and practitioners.

For the UK anaesthetic trainee the clinical focus makes it more applicable to those having achieved the primary FRCA. However, the random presentation of cases and lack of subject focus would present difficulties for revising, although it may provide a good adjunct to the core texts.

For the more experienced anaesthetist it may be used to refresh the knowledge base, and additionally provide inspiration when devising questions for teaching.

The precise target market remains somewhat unclear. Although potentially useful it is unlikely to be a core text for those taking exams, and time will show whether it appeals to the more senior anaesthetist.

This is a well-written, potentially useful and exceptionally presented book. Beware, however, the occasional misplaced decimal, dosing of rocuronium and sugam-



madex, mivacurium's suggested elimination pathways, and the labelling of the volatile agent's structure, all of which I'm sure will be corrected by the time the next welcome edition is published.

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Manson's Tropical Diseases (23rd edn)

Edited by Jeremy Farrar, Peter J Hotez, Thomas Junghanss, Gagandeep Kang, David Laloo, Nicholas White
Elsevier 2014

Price £160.00. Pp 1552
ISBN 978072051012

First published in 1898, Manson's Tropical Diseases was a 'manual on the diseases of

warm climates of handy size and yet giving adequate information'. Now in its 23rd edition, it has been revised and reformatted by Manson's heirs to reflect the evolving nature of tropical disease. With 172 authors from 37 countries it is a true international collaboration. It is still aimed at doctors working in the tropics but offers interesting insights into global health policy, ethics, research and economics of interest to all. Sections on venomous animals and environmental hazards may be of interest to those looking for fascinomas.

The 23rd edition maintains its core sections on bacterial, viral, fungal and parasitic disease. However, many of these chapters have been rewritten by experts in their fields who write both from clinical experience and from a thorough knowledge of the literature: Didier Raoult writes on *Bartonella*, Thomas Junghanss on echinococcosis. Chapters which have not been rewritten have been revised including an excellent update on cysticercosis by Hector H Garcia. The section on non-communicable diseases has been expanded to reflect the fact that these diseases are now the

leading cause of death worldwide. A topical chapter on obesity has been added to the longstanding section on nutrition.

This edition has been reduced to a more 'handy' size (1137pp compared to 1830pp of the 22nd edition) by placing references online and rationalizing the page layout. The addition of key points at the start of each chapter allows readers to quickly scan the book looking for chapters of interest.

This book functions both as a text book and a reference manual but remains eminently readable. The chapter on arboviruses, for instance, offers a summary of major clinical syndromes associated with these viruses and then a 2-page table summarizing the geographical distribution, transmission and clinical syndrome of over 70 arboviruses, right down to Nairobi sheep disease virus.

I would thoroughly recommend this book to anyone with an interest in global health and tropical medicine although even with its reduced size and the ease of global travel, the digital version is certainly more 'handy'.

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