

### Oxford Handbook of Clinical Medicine (10th edn)

**Ian B Wilkinson, Tim Raine, Kate Wiles, Anna Goodhart, Catriona Hall, Harriet O'Neill**  
**Oxford University Press 2017**  
**Price £29.99. Pp 904**  
**ISBN 9780199689903**

The 10th edition of the *Oxford Handbook of Clinical Medicine* is the first without the involvement of the original authors, Tony Hope and Murray Longmore.

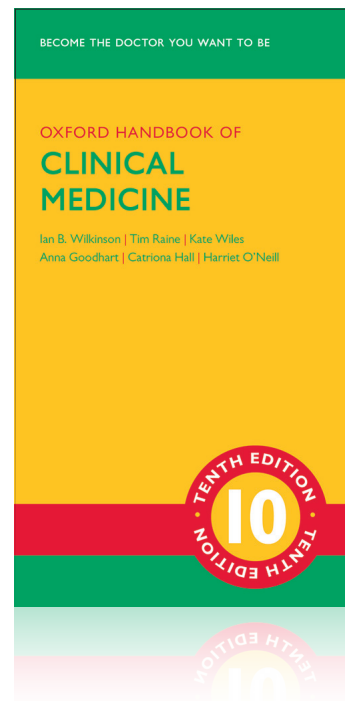
The format remains the same as previous editions, with a chapter dedicated to each medical subspecialty and additional chapters for surgery and practical procedures. Each chapter has been fully revised – most easily seen in the infectious diseases chapter, which now follows a more systematic, pathogen-based approach. A very welcome addition is an extensive references chapter, containing details of landmark studies, and most recent NICE guidance. The emergencies chapter now

includes the management of sepsis and bradycardia and the previous epidemiology chapter has been incorporated into the new history and examination section.

The book is engaging and concise throughout. The increased use of diagrams, lists and flowcharts helps make this an accessible quick reference guide. There is not sufficient detail to achieve highly specialist knowledge, but the 10th edition remains an excellent starting point to provide an essential overview of clinical medicine for medical students or any doctor wishing to quickly refresh their knowledge.

While sticking to a tried and tested formula, the new team have invigorated the 10th edition of this handbook. The book has been improved with the most up to date evidence-based medicine and still uses a fresh and compact format.

*Katherine Mackay, London North West Healthcare NHS Trust, London*



### Textbook of Critical Care (7th edn)

**Jean-Louis Vincent, Edward Abraham, Patrick Kochanek, Frederick Moore, Mitchell Fink**  
**Elsevier 2017**  
**Price £176.99. Pp 1408**  
**ISBN 9780323376389**

Edited by some of the biggest names in modern day critical care, this book could be considered the gold standard intensive care medicine reference text. While its sheer size renders it both daunting to delve into and difficult to lift, once you have taken the plunge, its clearly laid-out pages packed full of facts entice you to read on.

In this 7th edition, the multidisciplinary team of authors has completely rewritten and updated the content, while many new, relevant chapters have been added. The relatively easy to digest text, interspersed by well-defined diagrams, diagnostic images and quick reference 'key points' boxes, covers 186 topics, beginning with 'common problems' and ending with 'organisation and management'. The process of learning may be further enhanced by using the 29 interactive procedural videos and 24 e-procedural

chapters, and annotated references are provided for every topic.

Arguably not concise, and perhaps not a book that many could nonchalantly read through from cover to cover, this does provide a superb, up-to-date reference text for almost everything one might encounter on an intensive care unit. So, if you can read through, digest and understand the content, then sit back and rest easy, for few stones will have been left unturned in your quest for critical care knowledge.

*Ned Gilbert-Kawai, University College London Hospital, London*

### The Whistle-Blower: The Life of Maurice Pappworth

**Joanna Seldon**  
**University of Buckingham Press 2017**  
**Price £14.99. Pp 218**  
**ISBN 978 1 908684 974**

Most doctors working in the UK before 1994 would know the name of Dr Maurice Pappworth. First, because of his private tutorials for the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians examination, second, because of his textbook *Primer in Medicine*, and third, for his book *Human Guinea Pigs; Experimentation in Man*.

This biography, written by his late daughter, gives a fascinating account of his contributions and career. Pappworth was born in Liverpool in 1910. He qualified in medicine at Liverpool University in 1932, and obtained his Doctor of Medicine by examination in 1937. During the second World War he served in the Royal Army Medical Corps as a physician.

After the war, Pappworth began his postgraduate evening classes in 1952, four times a week with up to 50 students a session. In 1960 he published *Primer in Medicine*, based on his classes.

However, the publication of *Human Guinea Pigs* 50 years ago brought Pappworth's name to wide prominence. This exposed the widespread scandal, in the UK and USA, of medical experimentation on unsuspecting patients, with unpleasant and even lethal consequences. It was based on published medical papers and named hospitals and doctors. These revelations did much to ensure the current strict regulations concerning the use of patients and volunteers in medical research.

This beautifully written, well-documented book makes fascinating reading. *Harold Ellis, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London*