

## Anaesthesia, Intensive Care and Perioperative Medicine A–Z: An Encyclopaedia of Principles and Practice (6th edn)

**Steve M Yentis, Nicholas P Hirsch,  
James K Ip**  
Elsevier 2018  
Price £79.99. Pp 654  
ISBN 978 0 7020 7165 2

This is a classic, ‘must have’ text book – and while I could leave it at that, I feel compelled to write more for the sake of those new to the world of anaesthesia (likely to be the only people who have never heard of it).

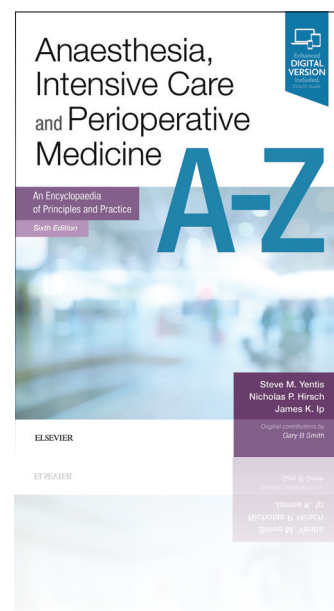
Returning in its 6th edition since its conception 25 years ago, this book has proved to be a stalwart companion for those revising for anaesthetic exams. Offering, as the name suggests, an A–Z of all that is relevant to anaesthesia, intensive care and perioperative medicine, this book is certainly not one to read from cover to cover, but rather provides a succinct text into which one can dip in and out, either to furnish oneself with facts for the first time,

or refresh the memory on subjects that may have temporarily slipped one’s mind.

While the 631 pages contain an incredible amount of information (so much so that it is hard to find a topic that is not included), it is remarkably easy to comprehend and digest as a result of the clear layout and use of different colours, fonts, and diagrams. The predominant changes in this edition reflect the ever-changing field in which the anaesthetist works, including a far greater focus on the role as ‘perioperative physicians’.

Also available in a digital version, this book is the epitome of ‘an encyclopaedia of principles and practice’ for anaesthesia, intensive care and perioperative medicine. It is not cheap, but is a valuable investment that will last throughout one’s career.

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



## ENT Medicine and Surgery: Illustrated Clinical Cases

**Simon Lloyd, Manohar Bance,  
Jayesh Doshi**  
CRC Press 2018  
Price £19.99. Pp 284  
ISBN 978 1482230413

In the world of modern examinations, where written papers consist of MCQs and oral assessments are based on structured vivas that use images and clinical scenarios, a book that offers case presentations with questions becomes not only very attractive, but a perceived necessity to trainees.

The three authors, who are all dedicated to surgical education, have created a very practical and portable textbook that is an ideal resource for all trainees within otorhinolaryngology, head and neck surgery.

The book maintains a consistent format: a single page with a clinical scenario, a good quality colour image, and a series of questions. The model answers, with a comprehensive range of information, are then displayed on the next page. Many questions have been constructed by multiple, well-known contributors, leading to some variation in style, but this does not detract from the book’s educational value.

A total of 102 scenarios are divided into chapters according to their main subspecialty. There is a diverse range of topics and a good balance between the subspecialties. The short last chapter includes medical devices in widespread use.

This book will be very helpful to trainees taking postgraduate specialty exams, but will also be of interest to trainers needing to maintain a broad spectrum of knowledge in the world of sub-specialization.

*Andrew Swift, University Hospital Aintree, Liverpool*

## Interpreting ECGs in Clinical Practice

**Sercan Okutucu, Ali Oto**  
Springer 2018  
Price £59.99. Pp 117  
ISBN 978 3 319 90556 3

The electrocardiogram is extensively used in clinical practice, and remains pertinent despite progress in imaging, offering invaluable insight into the mechanical and electrical workings of the heart. Its interpretation remains a daunting proposition for many health-care professionals so new ways to help understand the electrocardiogram are welcomed.

The first chapter of this book reviews the basics of the electrocardiogram to ensure a standard level of comprehension. Subsequent chapters then focus on a key pathology the electrocardiogram can lend insight into, such as arrhythmias or coronary artery disease. There are multiple electrocardiograms, with adequate and thorough explanations as to why the electrocardiogram manifests as it does with certain pathologies. The book is pocket sized and consistently details absolute criteria for making electrocardiogram-determined diagnoses, useful if revising for exams.

However, the book lacks coherence, failing to position an example of the electrocardiogram with the relevant text. Equally, it does not link electrocardiogram findings with archetypal clinical presentations, marginally devaluing its worth to practicing clinicians.

*Interpreting ECGs in Clinical Practice* is a serviceable investment, particularly good at detailing absolute criteria in an accruable format, but does not attribute electrocardiogram findings to clinical presentation.

*Joshua Michaels, Leeds General Infirmary, Leeds*