BOOK REVIEWS

Cambridge Textbook of Accident and Emergency Medicine.. Edited by D Skinner, A Swain, R Peyton and C Robertson, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK 1997. Pages 1271, Price Rs.4,300/- ISBN No. 0 521 433797.

This book is addressed to practioners of emergency and accident medicine, a recognized sub-specialty in UK. 110 contributing authors mostly from UK and USA have brought out a fairly comprehensive volume on this subject. The book is divided into three equal parts: the first part deals with general principles, the second with trauma, and third with medical, surgical and obstetric emergencies. The 'general principles' include 16 chapters on the organization of an emergency and accident department, basics of airway management and cardiopulmonary resuscitation, wound care, management of coma, shock and fluid and electrolyte imbalance. The section on trauma deals with the concepts in trauma management followed by management of regional injuries. Sport injuries, pediatric trauma, trauma in elderly, envenomation and near-drowning are also discussed. The last section deals with emergencies in various fields of medicine and surgery including psychiatric, endocrine and pediatric

Campbell's Operative Orthopaedics. 9th edition. Edited by S. Terry Canale, MD. Published by Mosby-Year Book, Inc. Missouri. 1998. Hardbound, Rs15000.00. Pages 4076. ISBN 0-8151-2087-7.

This new edition has been concised from the previous 5 volumes of the 8th edition to 4 volumes. All the old, seldom used procedures and techniques have been omitted and new chapters on MRI and Paediatric Cervical Spine have been added. It also has a special section on Sports Injuries involving the ankle, knee, shoulder and elbow joints. The text has been suitably illustrated with over

emergencies.

The presentation is lucid and the book is easy to read with logical sequencing and adequate flow charts. Stress has been laid on the fundamentals. Mncmonics are often mentioned as an aide memoire. Recent concepts have been adequately discussed (e.g. the three column concept of spinal trauma). However for a comprehensive book there is surprise omission of the 'trauma scores' (e.g. injury severity score, revised trauma score or APACHE score)- none of these finds a mention in the book. Similarly an outline of a 'trauma cared' for accident victim would have been useful.

The eminently readable book is recommended for libraries of medical colleges, as well as the Command and Zonal hospitals of the Armed Forces. It will also be a very useful reference guide in hospital MI Rooms and in intensive care units.

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9000 illustrations.

The book will remain "The Bible" and a source of intellectual pleasure and knowledge to Orthopaedic postgraduates and Orthopaedic surgeons for many years to come.

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