BOOK REVIEWS

Smith's Anaesthesia for Infants and Children. Sixth Edition. Edited by EK Motoyama and PJ Davis. Published by Mosby-Year book Inc. St Lois, Missouri, 1996. Pages 999. Hard bound. Price Rs.5,900/-. ISBN 0-8151-5937-4.

The sixth edition of this classic treatise eminently perpetuates the legacy of Dr. Smith, the original author. It incorporates recent advances and trends in the field of paediatric anaesthesia, while maintaining the overall emphasis on simplicity and patient safety. Fortyfive contributing authors from North America and Canada provide a comprehensive coverage of all aspects of paediatric anaesthesiology.

The volume is organised into four parts. The first part, Basic Principles in Paediatric Anaesthesia, includes new chapters on cardiovascular physiology and temperature regulation. The second part, General Approach to Paediatric Anaesthesia, includes a new chapter on pain management and an updated chapter on regional

anaesthesia. The third section, Clinical Management of Special Surgical Problems, includes new chapters on anaesthesia for cardiovascular surgery, orthopaedic surgery, dental surgery, out patient surgery and organ transplantation. The fourth part, Associated Problems in Paediatric Anaesthesia, incorporates new chapters on the history of paediatric anaesthesia, medicolegal aspects and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Paediatric drug dosages and anaesthetic implications of various syndromes are included in the appendices.

This classic text book will remain an invaluable guide for all who wish to anaesthetize and resuscitate the very young.

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Oral Implantology: Edited by Ashish Kakar. Omega Scientific Publishers New Delhi. 1998. 160 pp Price Rs. 900.00. ISBN-81-85399-41-7.

The editor deserves commendation for bringing out a book on Oral Implantology with good quality paper, clear printing, hard back cover, good photographs and diagrams. However, being a student of oral implantology for the last 15 years I would expect a comprehensive text on the basic research, surgical, prosthetic, orthodontic and orthognathic approach to include scientific material and guidance at international level which this book lacks. To me all chapters require critical review and drastic modifications. Recent books on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery are also carrying few chapters on oral implantology and covering the state of the art exposition, for example, Bell WH (ed): "Modern Practice in Orthog-

nathic and Reconstructive Surgery Vol. 2 Philadelphia, WB Saunders Company-1992" or the fully subscribed issues of Dent Clin of North Amer including the January 1998 issue.

As the book is not exhaustive it would need to be supported by other books on the same subject and thus would be of less value to the individual buyer. Further bearing in mind that a considerable percentage of it's 160 pages are taken up by illustrations rather than text, it seems a little overpriced at Rs.900.00. The convention of printing the professional degrees of the contributors is also omitted.

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Dr VS Palekar's Clinical Diagnosis for Medical Undergraduates, Revised Second Edition by Dr (Mrs) Shaila Palekar. Published by Popular Prakashan Pvt Ltd, 35-C Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Marg, Tardeo, Mumbai 400 034. 1998. Pages 288, Price Rs. 70.00 ISBN 81 7145 799X.

This book is written for undergraduates in Medicine giving them an approach to clinical examination and interpretation of symptoms and signs. There are five Sections in the book each dealing with major systems with first section dealing with general introduction. Common diagnoses encountered in clinical practice are discussed at the end of each section and this will help the undergraduate to quickly discuss the differential diagnosis during clinical presentation.

There are a large number of illustrations to explain methods of examination and mechanisms of clinical signs. The book is low priced and is affordable to undergraduates.

This book is not a substitute for standard medical books and students will be required to supplement clinical medicine from larger text books. The book is recommended for medical students learning their clinical medicine inwards and in preparing for clinical presentation in examination.

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