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TEXTBOOK OF PULMONARY DISEASE

Fourth Edition, Edited by Gerald L. Baum, MD, and Emanuel Wolinsky, MD
Little, Brown

One often has to judge a textbook by its cover and, in this regard, *Textbook of Pulmonary Disease* scores an "A." That this textbook is in its fourth edition is evidence of its popularity and high regard. And one need only glance quickly at the list of contributors to recognize an all-star team.

The contents cover the science of pulmonary medicine in its entirety. The chapters are grouped into 10 sections with appropriate titles, compiled into two handy volumes. The sections are organized logically and start with fundamentals and diagnostic methods, including advanced techniques such as transbronchial needle aspiration, high-resolution computed tomography, and magnetic resonance imaging. The sections lead from there to more complex issues such as adult respiratory distress syndrome, sleep apnea, and pulmonary rehabilitation. The coverage of critical care medicine is up to date, and the section on infectious disease is the highlight of the text.

For the most part, the chapters are written by well established or emerging authorities. It appears that a number of authors wrote several chapters, including some outside their areas of expertise. Nevertheless, the chapters devoted to my area of expertise were accurate and up to date, and I found chapters in other areas to be informative. The book is well referenced and easy to read, with appropriately positioned figures and tables.

This textbook meets the expectations of the pulmonary community and will be a good addition to the pulmonary literature.

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HEART DISEASE: REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT

By Michael A. Mendelsohn and Bradford C. Berk
Edited by Eugene Braunwald
W.B. Saunders

This new study guide, with more than 600 questions, is a useful adjunct to the standard reference, *Heart Disease: A Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine*. The authors present the questions in a format similar to that found on the American Board of Internal Medicine's Subspecialty Examination in Cardiovascular Disease.

Pictures and diagrams are clearly reproduced and contribute useful information. The answers, presented at the end of each section, are concise, referenced, and indexed to the *Textbook of Cardiovascular Medicine* for rapid access to in-depth discussion.

The authors have organized the book into four sections. The first, "Examination of the Patient," covers physical diagnosis, cardiac catheterization, cardiac radiology, and electrocardiography. The second, "Normal and Abnormal Circulatory Function," addresses the diagnosis, treatment, and pathophysiology of hypertension, electrophysiology, congestive heart failure, and shock. The third section reviews diseases of the heart, pericardium, aorta, and pulmonary vascular bed. The fourth section, "Broader Perspectives on Heart Disease" raises questions about specific diseases that have prominent cardiovascular manifestations.

The book is a useful study guide for trainees in internal medicine and cardiovascular disease. Others will find it helpful for review or self-evaluation. The book's only shortcoming is its length; more questions would allow greater coverage of the field and increase the book's value as a study guide.

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