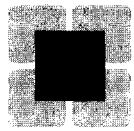

HERBERT P. WIEDEMANN, MD, EDITOR

THE NUCLEUS OF CARDIAC DIAGNOSIS

By William A. Schiavone, DO
Lea & Febiger

The *Nucleus of Cardiac Diagnosis* is a compilation of 75 brief, illustrative cardiac cases that emphasize the diagnostic value of the resting electrocardiogram (ECG) and chest radiograph. Each case is from the author's own cardiology practice and includes a brief history and description of pertinent physical and cardiac findings. For each case the ECG and chest radiograph are prominently displayed, analyzed, and discussed.

The book's premise is that the ECG and chest radiograph form the nucleus of cardiac diagnosis and guide the selection of special tests or treatment. The case reports support this point as the author integrates the important findings to establish the diagnosis. Insight into pathophysiology and differential diagnosis flow easily from each case.

While not a comprehensive text or reference work, the book provides many valuable diagnostic tips and insights into a broad range of cardiac diagnostic problems, both common and rare.

Despite the emphasis on the ECG and chest radiograph, these are reproduced in reduced size and some sharpness of detail is lost. In some cases the description is more revealing than the tracing or film. The ECG leads are not labeled, but, since the same format is used throughout the book, one soon learns the labeling scheme.

The book is best suited for cardiologists, internists, and medical or cardiology fellows in training who have considerable knowledge of cardiac disease and diagnosis. It is less well suited to the medical student or novice.

Written in a pleasant conversational style, the book is free of medical journalese. The busy practitioner can pick it up and read an illustrative case in a spare moment. The book is fun, warm, and full of discovery. As a practicing cardiologist I enjoyed the book and learned from it.

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RETINA

Steven J. Ryan, MD, editor-in-chief
C.V. Mosby

The field of retinal disease has long suffered from the lack of a "basic textbook." Despite the many excellent references in this subspecialty, the student and practitioner have not had a quick reference like this three-volume publication. *Retina* is the cooperative effort of 164 contributors who are prominent in the field.

The basic science information in Volume I includes chapters on anatomy and physiology, visual psychophysics, genetics, immunology, microbiology, and methods of clinical evaluation. There is a useful section on heredodegenerative disorders and an excellent discussion of intraocular tumors and their management.

Volume II, "Medical Retina," has excellent chapters on pathological responses and treatment principles. Most of the chapters in the extensive coverage of diseases of the macula are written by experts and known investigators. The large section on inflammatory and infectious retinal conditions is particularly timely, because of their resurgence related to the AIDS epidemic.

The pathophysiologic principles of retinal detachment are well covered in Volume III, "Surgical Retina." The section on retinal surgery is up to date, with its discussion of new modalities such as pneumatic retinopexy. Also appropriately covered are vitreous surgery techniques and problems such as proliferative vitreoretinopathy, silicone oil, giant tears, and endophthalmitis.

Retina is a well executed, monumental work. Although not exhaustive, the references form a more than adequate basis for further reading. The practical nature of these volumes is enhanced by more than 2,000 illustrations. The publication has already become the standard immediate reference for our staff, residents, and fellows.

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