
Starting with original poetry, the author adds a personal flair that is evidenced throughout the book. This is a very focused text that deals with managing respiratory care departments. The audience for this book can range from the respiratory care student in a management class to the therapist who wants to pursue management to the established manager. Throughout the book you will find “immutable truths,” which are axioms the author has smashed into, tripped over, or had fall on his head in his journey through hospital management.

The book has 9 chapters. It starts with a simple summary of management theory and how the author learned (in some cases the hard way) to lead people, accomplish tasks, and standardize and improve the work to be done.

In a lighthearted and easy-to-read manner the author covers preparation for becoming a respiratory therapy manager, hospital organization, structuring a department, measuring department performance (both financially and clinically), staffing, billing, capital and operations budgeting, evaluating technology, and staff development.

The chapters give nice direction and discussion, but I found items in the appendix to be of great value to a manager. For example appendix B, on respiratory therapist job descriptions and performance-evaluation forms, provides examples of job descriptions for the director, night-shift supervisor, clinical educator, clinical specialist, and respiratory therapist I and II. The job functions are well defined, and the suggestions on competency measurement and performance measurement will provide even the seasoned manager with ideas on improving expectations for the entire work team by moving from the job description through the annual performance evaluation. Another useful item I believe will be valuable to the manager is in the chapter “Evaluating Technology,” where there is a nice discussion of how to evaluate marketing information, and recommendations on conducting your own technology evaluations.

Another tool, in the appendix, is a document titled “Documents Used in an Evaluation and Selection of Mechanical Ventilators,” which provides a multidisciplinary, systematic, and objective approach for purchasing mechanical ventilators.

The accompanying CD-ROM has 75 files, including, among other things, all the appendices in the book and various tables and illustrations. The README.RTF file on the CD-ROM clearly states that the materials on the CD-ROM are for reading only, and on a single computer, and that all the materials are copyrightable and can not be modified without permission of the copyright owner.

The book is well-organized, reads quickly, and flows smoothly. You will find well-referenced facts and the opinions of the author, which are drawn from his personal experiences. Both fact and opinions are clear and allow the reader to draw his or her own conclusions. This book is light-hearted and not typical of a management book. I often found myself smiling as I read, relating the descriptions of activities that related well to my own experiences. The comprehensive index makes this a quick and usable reference for any manager’s office.

I found that throughout the book I agreed with many of the author’s observations, and, although I have been in management for more than 30 years, there were some great ideas and tools presented in ways I had not thought of, that may be of benefit to staff and services I manage.

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The book series Progress in Respiratory Research devoted its 36th volume to the subject of interstitial lung disease. “Diffuse parenchymal lung disease” is one of several terms coined to group diseases that cause diffuse infiltrative lung pathology. None of the previous 35 volumes in this series focused on diffuse parenchymal lung disease. Considering the substantial evolution in the classification, diagnosis, management, and understanding of the idiopathic interstitial pneumonias, dedication of a volume to diffuse parenchymal lung disease was timely. Costabel, du Bois, and Egan, the invited volume editors, assembled an excellent roster of who’s who in the field. The book has 4 sections: general aspects, basic aspects, diseases, and special considerations.

The classification of diffuse parenchymal lung diseases has substantially increased in complexity over the last century. Chronic interstitial pneumonia was first described by Osler at Johns Hopkins Hospital in the 1890s as “cirrhosis” of the lung. Several decades later Hamman and Rich reported in The Johns Hopkins Hospital Bulletin the first case series of 4 patients with acute interstitial pneumonia. A fundamental step forward was the use of histopathology to classify diffuse parenchymal lung diseases, an approach pioneered by Liebow and Carrington, which was revised almost 3 decades later by Katzenstein and Myers; their work created the criteria presently used to diagnose and classify many diffuse parenchymal lung diseases. This very interesting and relevant historical recount allows the reader to better understand the recently revised American Thoracic Society/European Respiratory Society classification of diffuse parenchymal lung diseases. Clinicians and researchers will be both entertained and educated in this complex topic by reading the chapter by King, one of the field’s preeminent experts and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences.

The remaining 5 chapters in this section carefully delineate the key components of a clinical evaluation, which include a careful occupational and environmental history, physical examination, radiographic and physiologic studies, bronchoalveolar lavage studies, and lung biopsy, when indicated. Although there is a substantial overlap in these chapters, they point us to the most efficient diagnostic approach to diffuse pa-
monary lung diseases and provide the key concepts, such as the relationship between high-resolution computed tomography appearances and macroscopic histopathology features. The limitations of these diagnostic approaches are explained in detail, which provides insight as to why controversies in the classification of diffuse parenchymal lung diseases persist despite the widespread acceptance of the current system.

Du Bois opens the book’s second section with a comprehensive review of the genetic determinants of disease for sarcoidosis, systemic sclerosis, and familial and sporadic interstitial pulmonary fibrosis. At the time this book was being published, 2 research groups simultaneously reported that heterozygous mutations in the hTERT or hTR genes can appear as familial pulmonary fibrosis. Although selected mutations in surfactant protein C had previously been associated with the development of pulmonary fibrosis in single kindreds, these were the first reports of mutations in selected genes associated with pulmonary fibrosis in multiple kindreds (8% of families studied).

The completion of the human genome sequence is considered by many the single most important advance in the biological sciences, and it led to the birth of the field of genomics, which is defined as the scientific discipline that strives to characterize the complete genetic makeup of an organism. Key components of this discipline include genetics, functional genomics, proteomics, and bioinformatics. The description of telomerase mutations in familial pulmonary fibrosis is a great example of the rapid pace at which genomic studies, including classic genetic linkage analysis, genome-wide association studies, gene-expression studies with microarrays, and other “omics” sciences will improve our capability to study complex diseases such as idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. The novel research presently being amassed with genomics approaches is not covered in Diffuse Parenchymal Lung Disease. Considering the rapid increases in information and shifts in technology, a future volume of the Progress in Respiratory Research series will be required to introduce readers to the impact of genomics respiratory research applications on this exciting new medical discipline.

The idiopathic nature and poor outcomes associated with several diffuse parenchymal lung diseases, such as idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and granulomatous and collagen vascular diseases, is the drive behind the growing scientific interest and increased funding by governmental and private funding agencies. Three chapters discuss disease mechanisms in the development and progression of selected idiopathic diffuse parenchymal lung diseases. The proposed mechanisms are presented in a clear and concise format, and the reader is pointed to key references that give more detailed discussions of the original research findings. Behr closes this section with an overview of the evidence-based approaches to the treatment of diffuse parenchymal lung diseases, including practical recommendations on how to manage patients with primary or secondary diffuse parenchymal lung disease.

Section 3 is dedicated to diseases. Frequently encountered primary disorders such as sarcoidosis, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, and eosinophilic pneumonia are reviewed in depth, and numerous (> 150 causes described) secondary disorders (eg, pulmonary fibrosis in collagen vascular diseases, and drug-induced and iatrogenic infiltrative lung diseases) are grouped. There has been considerable progress in the characterization and management of less common diffuse parenchymal lung diseases such as idiopathic nonspecific interstitial pneumonia, pulmonary alveolar proteinosis, and lymphangioleiomyomatosis, which makes this an excellent reference book for general practitioners, pulmonary specialists, and researchers.

The rising number of older patients affected with end-stage lung disease probably reflects the improvement in early detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease and some cancers. Therefore, more physicians will encounter in their general and subspecialty practices patients who are potential lung-transplant candidates or recipients. In the fourth section, Boehler outlines general eligibility criteria for lung transplantation and the indications for referral for lung transplantation in patients with end-stage diffuse parenchymal lung disease. Important practical clinical concepts, such as the appropriate referral strategy and expected outcome after lung transplantation, are clearly presented.

In summary, Diffuse Parenchymal Lung Disease is a worthy addition to the Progress in Respiratory Research series. This an excellent reference book that reflects the substantial recent progress in the field of diffuse parenchymal lung disease. We commend the editor-in-chief, the invited editors, and the chapter authors for their outstanding contributions to this important field of pulmonary medicine.

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Clinicians and teachers in allied health fields such as respiratory therapy or nursing value resources that are compact and provide accurate, high-quality information and are easily accessible at the bedside. This volume of the RN Expert Guides series is one such valuable resource. It introduces the practitioner, instructor, or student to the principles of respiratory medicine and provides a comprehensive yet succinct account of the full range of respiratory diseases. It is presented in a quick-reference, easy-to-follow style of the the RN Expert books. The explanations in the text are clarified and enhanced by abundant illustrations and tables. This book has 441 pages and 11 chapters, which cover principles and practices of respiratory care, anatomy and physiology of the cardiovascular system, assessment, diagnostic test results, respiratory disorders, emergencies, and complications, and treatments. The book uses eye-catching icons and has a very useful English-Spanish respiratory-assessment guide, and numerous diagrams, charts, graphs, and bullet lists.

In the section on anatomy and physiology the authors do a terrific job and use easy-to-read illustrations and diagrams to cover the anatomy of the respiratory system, the mechanics of breathing, gas exchange, pulmonary circulation, ventilation, pulmonary perfusion, and diffusion. There is a nice illustration of ventilation-perfusion mismatch.

Chapter 2, on assessment, has 3 major sections, which cover the patient’s health history, physical assessment, and abnormal
This chapter emphasizes a step-by-step approach to thorough physical examination and defining normal findings with abnormal findings that the practitioner may encounter. The chapter also includes "age awareness" alerts to which the clinician should pay close attention when assessing children or the elderly, and "red flags" to highlight subjects that could be of great importance (eg, during chest inspection, watch for areas of abnormal collapse during inspiration or abnormal expansion during expiration, which could signify paradoxical movement). The "age awareness" and "red flag" alerts appear throughout the book and emphasize the most important parts of each section. Chapter 2 provides a table with which to interpret assessment findings and probable causes, which will be very useful, especially for students to help them critically think through the various possible diagnoses or problems a patient may present with.

Chapter 3, on diagnostic tests and procedures, provides detailed synopses of respiratory diagnostic tests, including the course of obtaining the samples. The chapter starts with blood studies, particularly arterial blood gas values and white-blood-cell counts. The section on arterial blood gases covers the common probable causes of abnormal blood gas values in an easy table format. The one typographical error I noticed in the chapter was in the alveolar gas equation, which is given as:

\[ P_{aO_2} = F_{I0_2}(P_B - P_{HI0}) - 1.25(P_{acO_2}) \]

It should read

\[ P_{aO_2} = F_{I0_2}(P_B - P_{HI0}) - 1.25(P_{acO_2}) \]

The chapter also covers sputum and fluid studies, the difference between transudative and exudative effusions, endoscopic and radiologic imaging, pulmonary function tests, and noninvasive monitoring such as end-tidal CO₂ and pulse oximetry. I would have liked to see more on pulse oximetry, such as device limitations and precautions (eg, abnormal hemoglobins and low-perfusion states) and debunking of some widespread misconceptions regarding the appropriate applications of pulse oximetry.

Chapter 4, on treatments, is a nice reference. It covers all the major treatments seen in respiratory care. This chapter starts off with a thorough yet brief dialogue on drug therapy and explains the various classes of drugs, such as anti-infectives, β₂ adrenergics, corticosteroids, and xanthines. Included in this section are drug-delivery methods (eg, metered-dose inhaler, powder inhaler), indications, adverse effects, and points to which the clinician should pay close attention when delivering medications. Also included are discussions on inhalation therapy, continuous positive airway pressure, mechanical ventilation, and bronchial hygiene. I found all the treatments to be very accurate and according to the American Association for Respiratory Care clinical practice guidelines. I particularly liked the table on troubleshooting mechanical-ventilator alarms, which includes potential causes and interventions.

Chapters 5–10 cover the most common respiratory conditions, from pneumonias (viral vs bacterial) to obstructive, restrictive, and neoplastic disorders, and traumatic injuries. Each chapter covers the pathophysiology, assessment findings, complications, and treatment considerations of a given disease, in a brief, accurate, and easy-to-follow format. I noticed that the description of diagnosing acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) failed to completely use the American/European Consensus Conference's definition. There is a mention of \( P_{aO_2}/F_{I0_2} \) ratio of \( <200 \text{ mm Hg} (P_{aO_2} < 60 \text{ mm Hg on room air}) \), but there is mention that the patient needs a pulmonary artery wedge pressure of \(<12 \text{ mm Hg}, \text{ which is lower than the 18 \text{ mm Hg stated in the consensus conference definition}. Most importantly, there was no mention of using a low-tidal-volume strategy when ventilating a patient with ARDS. The National Institutes of Health ARDS Network study found that a tidal volume of \( 4–6 \text{ mL/kg predicted body weight} \) and a static pressure of \(<25 \text{ cm H}_2\text{O}\) reduced mortality by 20%, compared to the traditional style of ventilation, when treating patients with ARDS.

Another item I would have liked to see added is in the asthma section of this chapter. The authors mention that the National Institutes of Health endorses a stepwise approach (step 1 mild persistent, through step 4 severe persistent) to treating asthma. However, they failed to mention the corresponding treatment the National Institutes of Health endorses. I found it odd that the authors would describe the steps of diagnosing the severity of asthma but fail to include the treatment options. Including that treatment chart would have been extremely helpful.

The highlights in each of these chapters were the author's inclusion of educational discharge notes, which will help clinicians and student prepare the patient and family for discharge by making them aware of possible outcomes. Overall, each of these chapters was what I would call the "CliffNotes" for most common respiratory diseases and problems. These supplement big heavy pathophysiology books very well, and this book is an easy-to-use reference.

The last chapter, on emergencies, mainly included information on airway obstruction, bronchospasm, anaphylaxis, and respiratory arrest. I think these discussions will be easily understood, and they include the pathophysiology, assessment findings, complications, and treatment options. I particularly liked the illustrated step-by-step explanation of what happens during anaphylaxis. Other chapter highlights were on ways to manage an obstructed airway and a list of common antidotes for drug/toxin-induced respiratory depression.

The appendix has a very useful section on common English-to-Spanish translations, such as ¿Tiene ud tos? (Do you have a cough?) and ¿Ha tenido ud problemas de los pulmones? (Have you had any lung problems?). I'm sure most clinicians who speak only English will greatly appreciate this section when taking care of patients who speak only Spanish. I know I will.

In summary, this text is wide-ranging in its coverage of all areas of respiratory care. I found this compact text logically structured, well written, accurate, and, most importantly, useful to health care practitioners especially nurses, respiratory therapists, and students. I recommend this text.

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This is the 6th edition of this title, which is a classic multi-author adult critical care
textbook and reference with substantial clinical utility and a cross-disciplinary approach for the intensivist. Having searched for an updated, thoroughly comprehensive reference on evidence-based medicine, I am very impressed with all aspects of this new edition, mostly that the authors maintained the strengths of the previous editions while providing crucial updates. Edition 6 remains an easy-to-use reference with a now-familiar outline style. The content is systematic, solid, timely, and organized in a practical, organ-by-organ way. Other important mainstays include common techniques and procedures; surgical and trauma sections; and pulmonary, immunologic, transplantation, endocrine, cardiac, and psychiatric sections—all of which have been appropriately expanded. General updates establish this as a multidisciplinary work that covers medical and surgical intensive care across every topic, facilitated, in part, by the book’s consecutive progression through each organ system and by new collaborations, which are reflected in the updates to almost all 211 chapters. Accompanying the book is a companion online searchable version that is extremely useful for conducting desktop research. Especially helpful is that the references are all hyperlinked directly to the search. Especially helpful is that the illustrations—distinguished with highly descriptive titles, the first 5 of which (Chapters 45–49) each describe a specific respiratory-failure scenario. Chapter 45, “Respiratory Failure Part I: A Physiologic Approach to Respiratory Failure,” provides a comprehensive and simple overview of respiration physiology and biochemistry, with an excellent didactic clinical wrap-up section.

Chapter 46, “Respiratory Failure Part II: Acute Respiratory Failure Due to Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome and Pulmonary Edema,” nicely represents a classic topic enriched with new data and findings. In particular, this chapter impresses because it defines acute lung injury (ALI) and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and their relevant risk factors, followed by sections that describe the epidemiologic, radiographic, and various pathology features of the syndrome, including the pathogenesis of ventilator-induced lung injury. Current statistics are provided on ALI/ARDS morbidity and mortality.

Chapter 46 also summarizes the numerous biological signaling cascades involved in the pathogenesis of ALI and ARDS, with particular emphasis on pro-inflammatory cytokines and signaling cascades in the bronchoalveoli. This is followed by a comprehensive summary of approaches to ARDS management via mechanical ventilation and pharmacologic interventions. Overall, Chapter 46 provides timely and relevant data and up-to-date references. For example, reference 61 is a particularly good report on endothelial activation associated with survival in patients with lung injury.

Chapter 47 provides a fastidious review of status asthmaticus and its therapy, complete with a comprehensive description of asthma pathophysiology and links to materials on the effects of environmental trig-
gers on airway inflammation. Overall, Section 4 was very impressive.

The editors accurately cover the entire range of topics in adult critical care, which is an ambitious task given the dramatic changes to virtually all aspects of the field since 2000. Additionally, given that the field has changed so dramatically, this work accomplishes the editor’s goal of being the first all-inclusive accurate reference of its kind. It is filled with clear explanations of the latest assessments of the organ systems and their various pathologies. Throughout, the work is erudite and solid, with basic science and clinical applications covered well. Topics are given space proportional to their importance to critical care. A stated goal of the book is to maintain an editorial leadership that ensures that the material evolves sufficiently from previous editions to meet the demands of this heterogeneous field, which they accomplish impressively.

Furthermore, the material remains a balanced mix of state-of-the-art and traditional facts, unencumbered by irrelevant information. The editors took a purposely conservative approach to discussing treatment options and thus did not address emerging or new ICU procedures that are now commonly used (eg, ultrasound-guided central-line insertion). Many ICU patients have difficult central-line insertion, and the ultrasound-guided technique reduces complications and insertion time, but the book does not mention the value of this technique, possibly because there is no solid data or literature to support it, or because it provides little or no advantage in patients in whom there is no predicted insertion difficulty. Regardless, ultrasound-guided central-line insertion is common in the ICU. Another procedure gaining popularity is intubation with the GlideScope, which the book mentions briefly but does not cover well. In attempting to avoid controversy, the book overlooks that valuable technique.

Perhaps the best strength of this book is that anyone with a medical background can read and assimilate the information. The authors present the topics simply and clearly and build on a solidly presented foundation with increasingly detailed information. For example, to describe sleep pathology, the new Chapter 69 covers all issues of normal sleep physiology and builds on these basics to logically reveal the various pathologies. This path provides a practical approach to the diagnosis and treatment of sleep problems and a current summary of their classification. This chapter begins by naming and describing the basic sleep cycles, which serves as a tutorial for the beginner and as a reminder for the advanced practitioner. Ultimately, this chapter delves into the more idiosyncratic case studies and sleep pathologies in the context of comorbid conditions such as chronic fatigue syndrome.

In conclusion, this 6th edition achieves the lofty goal of accurately translating research into ICU clinical practice. Each chapter reflects the important advances in medical intensive care since the publication of the 5th edition. Noted shortcomings aside, this is a very complete textbook of the science and art of intensive care medicine, and it is updated, organized and easy to read. Overall, this edition is improved over the 5th edition, and reflects current principles and protocols.

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