

The Complete Recovery Room Book

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This is the 3rd edition of the "Complete Recovery Room Book" which is one of few in this area. This new edition is 104 pages longer than the previous one. There are 28 chapters and the broad range of topics mean that there are several chapters to interest everyone, covering almost all aspects of the recovery room and anesthetic considerations. The final pages of the book consist of 8 appendices, which I found quite useful for the reader. There is no doubt that the authors spent a long time, and a lot of effort to revise the 2nd edition as they have added many new chapters, omitted some and rewritten the rest to include the most recent, relevant changes and medical advances in the peri-operative care of the patients. The new chapters to the book address, metabolism, physiology of pain, regional technique for pain control, management of cardiac problems, mothers and babies, pediatrics, elderly patients, pre-existing diseases, and crisis management. These new chapters serve to give a good overview of the related topics and are written in a simple straightforward way, which can easily be read and understood. The

chapters on the kidney and golden rules have been omitted in this new edition. Almost all the diagrams in the book are simple and easily reproducible line diagrams.

I quite agree with the authors when they say in their introduction that this book is like an encyclopedia, providing information quickly regarding unfamiliar clinical problems, operative procedures or emergency situations, but I feel that some topics need to be discussed in more detail with more pharmacological background such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). The authors have expressed in this book their own experiences and this may explain the limited number of references at the end of each chapter.

This book is reasonably priced. It does fill a gap between handbooks and major reference text, in the area of recovery room. It should be read by everyone involved in providing post operative care particularly those at junior level, namely anesthetists, surgeons and recovery room nurses. This book should be available in recovery rooms and medical libraries of all hospitals.

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