

A PRACTICE
OF
ANAESTHESIA

by

W. D. WYLIE &
H. C. CHURCHILL-DAVIDSON

THIRD
EDITION

A PRACTICE OF ANAESTHESIA

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FOREWORD

"WHAT shall I read?" is a question posed again and again to every teacher of anaesthetics. The answer will vary of course with the needs of the individual. Several books are available for those requiring either an introduction to the subject or concentrated factual information. When the question is put by a man of some experience, however, who wants a book which will supply in large measure his needs for, say, the F.F.A.R.C.S. diploma, teachers have in the past had to direct his attention to a host of papers and monographs—and even to weighty tomes—dealing with particular aspects of the specialty. There seemed, therefore, to the authors of this book a real need for gathering within the covers of one volume the greater part of that widely scattered knowledge which the anaesthetist of today is expected to possess. To this end, the subjects of physics, anatomy, and pathology—as they bear upon the specialty—have been touched upon; the relevant portions of physiology and pharmacology treated in detail; and the clinical aspect repeatedly emphasised.

The authors are recognised teachers and acknowledged authorities in anaesthesia, and they have called upon other members of the Anaesthetic Department and experts in particular fields at St. Thomas's Hospital to contribute a few special chapters. The composition has been handled in a novel way; contrary to usual anaesthetic custom, the subject has been arranged in sections devoted to the various systems of the body. Frequent repetition—so difficult to avoid in a work of such magnitude—has been obviated by cross-reference, and the comprehensive index is there to be used.

In presenting the practical aspects of anaesthesia some basic experience has been assumed. Special techniques used in those branches of the specialty which the trainee may not have had the good fortune to come across in a general hospital have been described in the fullest detail. There are always more ways than one of tackling every anaesthetic problem; for the sake of clarity, however, attention has largely been confined to those approaches which have proved themselves of greatest value in the hands of the authors and which are in current use at St. Thomas's Hospital, and each chapter ends with a list of references to the relevant literature.

Having watched it grow and having been given the opportunity of reading the greater part of it, I have no doubt that this book will bring to the established anaesthetist a ready source of reference to recent work on this rapidly expanding specialty and that the herculean labours of the authors will materially ease the burden for those still in training.

M. D. NOSWORTHY

PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION

THE problems associated with bringing up to date and constantly striving to improve a postgraduate textbook are considerable. Five years have passed since the publication of the second edition and during this period there have been many advances in clinical anaesthesia and in the sciences from which anaesthesia stems. We have become increasingly aware of the need to widen the field of editorship to ensure a thorough and expert revision of the subject matter, but we have been equally anxious to maintain the style of the original editions and the scientific foundations upon which they were built. Throughout we have been particularly careful to make the whole work relevant to clinical practice.

We want to pay tribute to our Associate Editors. They will deserve most of the credit for any success that this edition may achieve, for as well as revising a large part of the text and contributing many new sections, they have been our constant advisers and ever-helpful colleagues. Once again we thank those experts who have contributed special chapters for this edition or who have brought up to date or remodelled their earlier chapters.

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W. D. WYLIE

H. C. CHURCHILL-DAVIDSON

August, 1971

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

PHYSIOLOGICAL and pharmacological principles now govern the choice of anaesthetic drugs and techniques; and, although many patients can be safely dealt with by routines born of experience, a sound understanding of the background of a particular patient enables the proper and best choice to be made.

In a sense anaesthesia is simply the application of a knowledge of the pharmacological action of drugs to known physiology and pathology, and for this reason the student of anaesthesia must be well-versed in the basic sciences and their application to anaesthesia. Moreover, he must be aware of the modern trends in the medical and surgical care of patients.

We have deliberately assumed that our readers are familiar with the elementary practice of anaesthesia, and practical methods are not always dealt with in great detail, unless they are either of special value though rarely performed, or likely to be required by only a small proportion of practitioners. By the addition of a little more than the bare requirements for competent anaesthesia in the operating theatre, and in some places by the description of a particular disease, pathological process or therapeutic measure, it is hoped to give the reader a broader view of the subject and a better foundation from which to assess the value of the specialty.

The preparation of a book of this nature has necessitated frequent reference to standard and specialised texts and papers in the world literature. These are acknowledged in the relevant parts of this work, but we wish to express our indebtedness to their authors since they have been the foundations upon which we have built, and to crave indulgence should any acknowledgement—through oversight—have been omitted.

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W. D. WYLIE

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Chapter 52—Fig. 1, Dr. R. C. Nainby-Luxmoore and the Editor of *Anaesthesia*; Figs. 3, 4 and 5, British Oxygen Company Ltd.; Fig. 6, Medical and Industrial Equipment Ltd.; Figs. 7 and 8, Cyprane Ltd.

Chapter 53—Fig. 1, Lloyd-Luke (Medical Books) Ltd.; Table 1, H.M. Stationery Office; Table 2, Dr. M. J. Rorke, Dr. D. A. Davey and Dr. H. J. Du Toit, and the Editor of *Anaesthesia*.

Appendices

Appendix II—Figs. 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8, I.B.M. United Kingdom Ltd.; Figs. 3 and 4, Mr. R. Corkhill.

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