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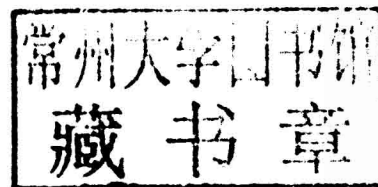
Surgical Intensive Care Medicine

Third Edition

John M. O'Donnell • Flávio E. Nácul
Editors

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 Springer

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This book is dedicated to my wife, Rocky, and daughter, Jacquelyn, who give me purpose; to my beloved parents, Kay and Frank "Shorty" O'Donnell, who never lost faith; to my mentors, medical students, and residents, whose patience was tested every day; and to all of the nurses who have ever cared for patients in the surgical intensive care unit at the Lahey Hospital and Medical Center.

John M. O'Donnell, MD

*To my parents Lilian and Jacob, for showing me that possibilities are infinite;
To my wife Alessandra, for her unconditional love;
To my children Mariana and Rafael, for enriching my life and making everything worthwhile;
And to my brother Luis and my uncle Sabino, for showing me that medical practice should be guided by kindness, knowledge, ethics, and common sense; with admiration.*

Flávio E. Nácul, MD, PhD

Preface

We are honored to present the third edition of *Surgical Intensive Care Medicine* and we are very grateful for the enthusiastic reception with which the academic community received the first two editions. Most considered them to be important contributions to the critical care literature. Although the basic organization of our new book remains unchanged, being composed of 63 carefully selected chapters divided into 11 parts, the chapters have been largely rewritten to include the many important advances that have been made and the controversies that have arisen over the past few years. While the chapters discuss definitions, pathophysiology, clinical course, complications, and prognosis, the primary emphasis is devoted to patient management. We have been extremely fortunate to attract a truly exceptional group of contributors, many of whom are nationally and internationally recognized researchers, speakers, and practitioners in the field of critical care medicine. An important feature of this edition is the geographical diversity of authors. Most are based in the USA but colleagues from Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, and the UK have also made notable contributions. The book is written for medical students, residents, fellows, practitioners, and for all health care professionals involved in the care of the critically ill surgical patient. We are fortunate to have Springer as our publisher and we are especially thankful to our chapter authors and their families. We anticipate that our book will be both educational and enjoyable and it is our hope that both our readers and their patients will benefit.

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