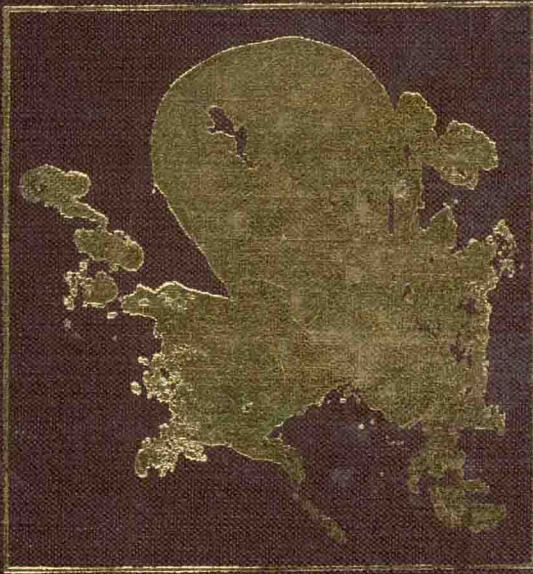


GYNECOLOGY

Second Edition



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W. B. Saunders Company: West Washington Square
Philadelphia, PA 19105

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Second Edition

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ISBN	Single Volume	0-7216-7081-4
ISBN	Volume I	0-7216-7082-2
ISBN	Volume II	0-7216-7083-0
ISBN	Set	0-7216-7084-9

Gynecology

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Last digit is the print number: 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

FOREWORD

The first edition of this textbook, published sixteen years ago, has been a resounding success, judging by the only yardstick worthy of serious notice: namely, the frequency with which it is called into use by students and professionals in medicine. After this interval a revision was certainly in order, so rapidly do both knowledge and its applications advance and change. But even the authors' closest colleagues were unprepared for what is here revealed to you.

This is a veritable Thesaurus of Gynecology. Samuel Johnson, in producing his dictionary of the English language, cannot have been more meticulous in ensuring completeness and accuracy of coverage. To give you just one example, each and every bibliographical reference has been checked for correctness of citation and appropriateness to the subject matter.

The unique original concept of subdivision into chronological sections from birth to old age has been retained and refined, with much less duplication whenever the same topic is discussed in several different age brackets. The content of each chronological sector has again been carefully selected to emphasize conditions important in that age group and the sequence of topics within each section has been logically rearranged. The technique of posing questions as topic headings has also been maintained—a device which many readers have found helpful. Perhaps the most important and demanding aspect of the revision effort was the authors' insistence on bringing therapeutic recommendations up-to-date and the inclusion of all the important new subjects that the specialty has acquired since the first edition. This book will eventually be dated, as all textbooks must be, but at the time of its first release it will be as current as dedicated authorship can make it.

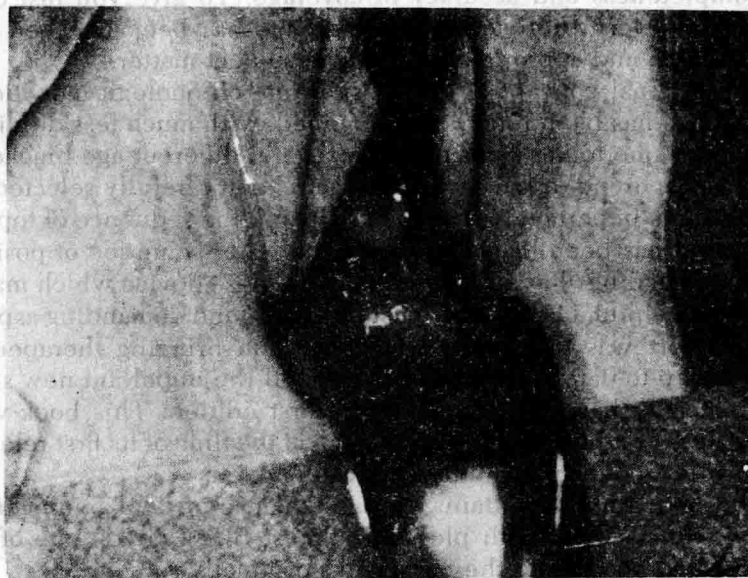
The text runs easily and it contains a minimum of jargon and grammatical awkwardness. It can be read with pleasure, almost like a novel; one often finds himself reading on beyond the paragraphs originally sought out.

The volume will serve as an easily accessible source of detailed, up-to-date information on all aspects of gynecology. It will prove instructive to the student, helpful to the qualified practicing gynecologist, and a God-send to the primary care physician who wants a volume on his shelves that he can turn to for facts and advice.

HOWARD ULFELDER, M.D.

*Joe V. Meigs Professor
of Gynecology,*

Harvard Medical School



Top: Endometriosis at operation appears as red spots scattered over the uterine fundus and pelvic peritoneum.

Bottom: Blue-red cysts of endometriosis are seen at the apex of the vagina.

FACING PAGE: Large tissue section of cancer of the cervix

FOREWORD

This second edition of "Gynecology" by Parsons and Sommers, coming sixteen years after the first edition, is still the uniquely outstanding textbook of this specialty. It is unique because it has been written by two authorities eminent in their respective fields—clinical gynecology and general pathology (the latter with special emphasis on female reproductive pathology). Also it is outstanding because it covers in great breadth and depth all essential gynecologic problems except detailed descriptions of operative procedures.

Moreover, its uniqueness extends even further in that the gynecologic problems of the female patient are considered as they relate to seven significant age-groups: infancy and childhood; puberty and adolescence; the early reproductive period; the later reproductive years; the premenopausal and menopausal periods; and senility. (In the Foreword to the first edition I likened them unto Shakespeare's "seven ages of man.") Each age has its own distinctive problems. They are thoroughly and skillfully discussed as to anatomy, physiology, pathology, diagnosis and treatments.

Although this book does not purport to cover obstetrics in any of its many aspects, it does cover exhaustively the important medical and social problems of infertility, contraception, abortion, ectopic pregnancy, and trophoblastic disease.

In talking with the authors and perusing the page proofs, it is clear to me that this new edition has been revised against the background of great medical and social advances of the past sixteen years. The subject of gynecology receives less and less time in medical school curricula, even though patients' gynecologic problems do not abate. "The delivery of medical care" (and its cost), with all its social, diagnostic, and therapeutic ramifications, occupies more and more of the media's attention; it consumes vastly increasing amounts of the taxpayer's money and also of that money which remains in his own pocket after his taxes have been paid.

The present edition has been extensively revised and most chapters completely rewritten and expanded to give the most modern and complete coverage to all aspects of nonoperative gynecology. The authors have succeeded admirably. Each chapter amounts to a lucidly written monograph; its prose flows along like that of a well written novel. Its bibliography is impressive, complete and up to date. The book is interesting and fun to read. It should go far in educating medical students, training the primary care physician, and helping the gynecologist in his practice of the art as well as the science of gynecology.

The book is larger than its forebear, and will be published in one- and two-volume editions. I personally opt for the multivolume publication because it is dangerous to read a heavy book in bed.

ARTHUR T. HERTIG, M.D.

*Emeritus Shattuck Professor of
Pathological Anatomy*

Harvard Medical School

FOREWORD

This second edition of "Gynecology" by Parsons and Hertig, coming sixteen years after the first edition, is with the new and revised textbook of this specialty. It is unique because it has been written by two authorities eminent in their respective fields—clinical gynecology and surgical pathology. The book with special emphasis on female reproductive system and its pathology. Also it is outstanding because it covers in great breadth and depth all essential gynecologic problems except detailed descriptions of operative procedures.

Moreover, its uniqueness extends even further in that the gynecologic problems of the female patient are considered as they relate to recent significant age-groups, infancy and childhood, puberty and adolescence, the early reproductive period, the later reproductive years, the perimenopausal and menopausal periods, and senility. In the Foreword to the first edition I likened them into Shakespeare's seven ages of man. Each age has its own distinctive problems. They are anatomical, physiological, and pathological. Although this book does not purport to cover chapters in any of its many aspects, it does cover exhaustively the important medical and social problems of infertility, contraception, abortion, ectopic pregnancy, and trophoblastic disease.

In talking with the authors and persons who have helped me to make this new edition, I have revised against the background of great medical and social advances of the past sixteen years. The subject of gynecology is covered less and less time in medical schools, and even fewer patients can be seen in the delivery room. The delivery of medical care, and its gynecologic problems do not abate. The delivery of medical care, and its cost, with all its social, diagnostic, and therapeutic ramifications, increases more and more of the medical attention it commands, which remains to this amount of the taxpayer's money and also of that money which remains to his own pocket after his taxes have been paid.

The present edition has been extensively revised and most chapters completely rewritten and expanded to give the most modern and complete coverage to all aspects of reproductive gynecology. The authors have selected admirably. Each chapter amounts to a lucidly written monograph; its prose flows along like that of a well-written novel. It is interesting and fun to read. It gives the complete and up-to-date book is interesting and fun to read. It should go far in educating medical students, training the general practitioner, and helping the gynecologist in his practice of the art as well as the science of gynecology.

PREFACE

The philosophy embodying the combined reporting of experience in dealing with gynecologic problems encountered by the clinician and the pathologist remains the same as that of the first edition of GYNECOLOGY published in 1962.

The format then, as now, was chosen in an attempt to relate gynecologic symptoms, actually few in number, to the various disease processes and derangements in function as they manifest themselves during the seven ages of a woman's life. To explain the symptoms and physical findings there is a wide spectrum of possibilities, both local and systemic. We have tried to discuss each particular functional problem and disease entity in the age group in which it is most often encountered and in which there is the greatest chance of confusion in both diagnosis and treatment.

The present edition of GYNECOLOGY is actually a complete revision rather than a rewrite, for so many new horizons have come into view and so many others have taken on a new look. For this reason both the text and illustrations and their accompanying References have been more extensive. This is particularly true of the section on early childhood and adolescence. The endocrinologic knowledge of growth and development in childhood, particularly as it concerns puberty, has mushroomed. Interest in this phase of a woman's life has increased greatly as it has become obvious that many problems that manifest themselves for the first time in the reproductive years actually could have been discovered and treated during infancy and childhood.

The presentation has been enlarged by design, for, despite the fact that medicine has become a multidisciplinary art and science, a diminishing amount of time has been allotted to the study of gynecology in the curriculum at nearly all medical schools. Since the present-day student is beginning to show an increased interest in entering the area of family practice there would appear to be a greater need for an expanded understanding of gynecology.

It is obvious in the extensive coverage of such a wide variety of subjects that the present authors cannot have expertise in all those under discussion. The observations in this book represent a compilation of our own interpretations and the ideas of many authors. It is our hope that the material satisfactorily answers the questions that have been raised. Our approach leans heavily on the method the brokerage offices employ in offering a new issue of stocks and bonds to the public. Every brochure contains a disclaimer prepared by

legal counsel: "This information, while not guaranteed, is gathered from sources we believe accurate."

We are profoundly grateful to those who have contributed by lectures, articles appearing in books and periodicals, and by word of mouth to the discussions of the expanding scope of gynecologic problems. We continue to pay tribute to Dr. Joe V. Meigs and Dr. Arthur T. Hertig who tutored and sponsored us through the years.

Specifically we wish to thank our colleagues Drs. Janet McArthur, Philip Stubblefield, Donald Goldstein, Rapin Osathanondh, Lorna Johnson, John Crawford, Steven Gabbe, and John Strauss. Their contributions, suggestions, and their criticisms were matched by their patience. We are extremely indebted to them for the role they played.

We wish to offer special homage to Dr. Shirley G. Driscoll, who originally planned to be one of the coauthors but found the pressure of other commitments too heavy to continue. Before reaching her decision to withdraw from coauthorship she spent many hours in reviewing material and made helpful suggestions and criticisms offered from a world of experience.

We would also like to express our sincerest thanks to many who contributed to the actual composition of the text. Miss Signe Windhol exhibited the wizardry of the man called "Intrepid" as she broke the practically indecipherable code appearing on the handwritten manuscript. Without her assistance the book would never have left the drawing board. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the Reference Library Staff of the Countway Library. Dr. Sommers particularly wishes to thank Mrs. Simone Gordon, Mrs. Marsha Moss, Ms. Charlotte Moss, and Ms. Elyse Stock for their secretarial and library research assistance. The new photographic illustrations were largely provided by Ms. Rosemarie Spitaleri and Mrs. Margaret Uibel. Appreciation is expressed to the authors and publishers who have permitted use of other illustrations.

Finally, we both would like to pay special tribute to John Dyson of the W. B. Saunders Company, a master of patience and forbearance who contributed his own "blood, sweat and tears" to the meticulous editing and indexing this oversized tome required.

LANGDON PARSONS

SHELDON C. SOMMERS

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1978

W. B. SAUNDERS COMPANY

Philadelphia / London / Toronto

一九八〇年十月五日

Part I

Gynecologic Problems of Infancy and Childhood