



Cancer Pain Management: Principles and Practice

Edited by Winston C.V. Parris. 596 pp. Illust. Butterworth-Heinemann, Oxford/Boston. 1997. US\$25. ISBN 0-7506-9491-2

Overall rating:	Good
Strengths:	Fairly comprehensive
Weaknesses:	Some repetition. Coverage of systemic pharmacotherapy as related to anesthetic techniques could be better
Audience:	Those managing patients with cancer pain

Although cancer is a common disease, many patients do not have their pain optimally managed. Fortunately, over the past 10 to 15 years, significant inroads have been made in dealing with this difficult problem.

This book attempts to cover the wide spectrum of cancer pain, including epidemiology, mechanisms, assessment, and general medical and original therapies. It also has sections on psychological, ethical and governmental issues. Many of these sections are reasonably detailed, with ample illustrations and tables. The major therapeutic focus of the book, however, is from an anesthesiologist's point of view: there is a fairly strong emphasis on regional approaches (e.g., nerve blocks, invasive techniques).

Sections that could have received more detail include systemic pharmacotherapy (e.g., incident pain, adjunctive drugs to opiates, outpatient opiate infusions). And, although there is a chapter on slow-release opiates, there is no mention of some of the products now available in Canada, such as slow-release hydro-morphine or morphine sulfate. Despite lack of adequate space to discuss some of these systemic approaches, it was curious that the editor chose, instead, to include chapters on nutrition (2), chest pain, morphine metabolites and the epidemiology of cancer in children.

Overall, however, this book is a good source of information on a wide spectrum of topics related to cancer pain, which would justify its inclusion in the library of professionals who deal with this problem.

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Books and other media received

Livres et autres documents reçus

Books for patients

Glaucoma: A Patient's Guide to the Disease. Graham E. Trope. 66 pp. University of Toronto Press, Toronto. 1997. \$8.95. ISBN 0-8020-7847-8

Know Smoking: The Whole Truth About Smoking and Quitting. Simon T. Bryant. 220 pp. Illust. Middle Way Publishing, Inc., Calgary. 1997. \$16.95. ISBN 0-9681456-0-4

Environment

Environmental Health. Revised. Dade W. Moeller. 479 pp. Illust. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass. 1997. US\$49.95. ISBN 0-674-25859-2

Miscellaneous

Cecil Essentials of Medicine. 4th ed. Edited by Thomas E. Andreoli, J. Claude Bennett, Charles C.J. Carpenter and Fred Plum. 999 pp. Illust. W.B. Saunders Company/Harcourt Brace and Company, Philadelphia; W.B. Saunders Canada, Toronto. 1997. \$60.95. ISBN 0-7216-6697-3

Otolaryngology

Dysphagia: Diagnosis and Management. 3rd ed. Edited by Michael E. Groher. 388 pp. Illust. Butterworth-Heinemann Ltd., Oxford, England; Butterworth-

Heinemann, Boston. 1997. US\$50. ISBN 0-7506-9730-X

Pediatrics

Pediatric Emergency Medicine: Concepts and Clinical Practice. 2nd ed. Senior editor, Roger M. Barkin. 1269 pp. Illust. Mosby-Year Book, Inc., St. Louis; Harcourt Brace and Company Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 1997. \$233. ISBN 0-8151-1002-2

A Practical Guide to the Evaluation of Child Physical Abuse and Neglect. Angelo P. Giardino, Cindy W. Christian and Eileen R. Giardino. 304 pp. Illust. Sage Publications Ltd., London; Sage Publications Inc., Thousand Oaks, Calif. 1997. US\$85. ISBN 0-8039-5426-3

Psychiatry

Attachment and Psychopathology. Edited by Leslie Atkinson and Kenneth J. Zucker. 328 pp. Guilford Press, New York. 1997. US\$36.95. ISBN 1-57230-191-0

Radiology

Basic Medical Techniques and Patient Care in Imaging Technology. 5th ed. Revised edition of *Basic Medical Techniques and Patient Care for Radiologic Technologists*. Lillian S. Torres, with a contribution by Terri Ann Linn-Watson Norcutt and Andrea Guillan Dutton. 349 pp. Illust. Lippincott-Raven, Philadelphia. 1997. US\$33.95. ISBN 0-397-55398-6

Respiratory disease

Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. 4th ed. Editor-in-chief, Roger C. Bone. 131 pp. Illust. Mosby-Year Book, Inc., St. Louis; Harcourt Brace and Company Canada, Ltd., Toronto. 1997. \$173. ISBN 0-8151-1370-6

Rheumatology

Textbook of Rheumatology (Vols. 1 and 2). 5th ed. Edited by William N. Kelley, Edward D. Harris, Jr., Shaun Ruddy and Clement B. Sledge. Illust. W.B. Saunders Company/Harcourt Brace and Company, Philadelphia; W.B. Saunders Canada, Toronto. 1997. \$341 (set). ISBN 0-7216-5692-7