

J Feldmeier, Michael B Strauss, and William A Zamboni. Though some of the material consists of personal experience, the text is well referenced. Some of the information is dated, such as that pertaining to the use of corticosteroids for air embolism. However, most of the book's recommendations are up to date.

Though **Hyperbaric Surgery** is a good overview, it is difficult to use as a reference book. There is quite a bit of overlap among chapters. For example, fundamental mechanisms of wound healing and the effects of oxygen are covered in 5 chapters. That is not a major fault, but it is a major fault that the book—inexplicably—has no index.

Except for carbon monoxide poisoning, the book summarizes very well the clinical aspects and scientific underpinnings of hyperbaric medical practice. Despite its few shortcomings, it is a volume that will be useful to both the clinician interested in reading more about the field and the hyperbaric specialist. The format is exceptionally "high class." Glossy pages make the many excellent photographs and radiographs outstanding. For anyone even slightly interested in hyperbaric medicine, the illustrations alone make the book worth owning.

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Hyperbaric Nursing. Valerie Larson-Lohr and Helen C Norvell, Editors. Flagstaff, Arizona: Best Publishing, 2002. Hard cover, illustrated, 400 pages, \$73.

Hyperbaric Nursing is a textbook that fills a long-standing need within the community. The editors, Valerie Larson-Lohr and Helen C Norvell, spent many long hours pulling this major project together, and they are to be commended for their superb effort. Twenty-eight dedicated baromedical professionals contributed to the text.

The target audience is presumed to be baromedical nurses. However, this book is an excellent reference for hyperbaric technicians who manage programs or for organizations considering instituting new programs.

Each chapter's table of contents is presented in short form in the beginning of the book and in a longer, very detailed form at the beginning of each chapter. The detailed chapter tables are a useful feature in that they enable the reader to quickly access information. However, concordance between the tables of contents and the index is lacking. For example, from the index one would assume that the only mention of the Baromedical Nurses Association Standards of Care is on page 279, but the standards are actually spelled out beginning on page 85.

The editors have done a superb job of gathering useful baromedical information that has previously been available only from scattered sources. Editing problems, such as content overlap, inconsistent writing style, differing methods of citation, and differing approaches to the target audience, are evident to a degree in the book. Some source references, such as the list of Internet sites contained of page 377, have erroneous information.

Neither the list of contributors nor any of the chapters list the writers' credentials. Knowing the background and training of the authors would help the reader

understand the perspective and focus of the chapter.

The book is comprehensive and can serve as an excellent guide for program coordinators and staff members from all disciplines. Section II is a comprehensive review of documentation. It includes fundamentals of documentation and current requirements and standards. The examples of documentation and assessment forms that are included will be very helpful for programs that need to institute new forms or modify current ones. The source and copyright information for the forms are not always present, nor are the sources of the photographs.

Section III contains information specific to care of hyperbaric therapy patients. There are sections addressing generic issues, the multiplace environment, age-specific, critical care, and diabetic considerations. This section also includes the current approved indications for hyperbaric therapy, with reviews of each condition.

Other sections in the book address hyperbaric nursing research, patient education, regulatory requirements, and safety considerations. These sections are comprehensive, and the authors have excellent credentials even though these credentials are not given in the book. The section on transcutaneous oximetry and laser Doppler studies is a comprehensive reference for hyperbaric care providers.

Overall, this first-edition textbook on hyperbaric nursing is an exceptional addition to the professional literature.

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