

ous recombinant interferon gamma-1b in 330 patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. (That important paper is not yet published.) My only complaint with this section is that the editors did not include a separate chapter devoted entirely to idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Surely, if lymphangioleiomyomatosis and Langerhans' cell histiocytosis merit their own chapters, then idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis—the most common and deadly of the interstitial pneumonias—deserves a more thorough discussion. Regardless, this section does an excellent job of reviewing important clinical ILD entities and will be a useful reference source for all clinicians.

In conclusion, **Interstitial Lung Disease** is the authoritative textbook on the subject. It is well-written, well-indexed, and well-organized. The book easily accomplishes the goals stated by the editors in their preface: to provide an excellent framework for thinking through how to evaluate a patient presenting with an ILD, to update the current understanding of the pathogenesis of ILD, and to review the specific clinical entities that constitute the ILDs. This text deserves to be on the bookshelf of pulmonary physicians and all members of the medical profession with a particular interest in ILD.

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Occupational Disorders of the Lung: Recognition, Management, and Prevention.

David J Hendrick MSc MD, P Sherwood Burge MSc MD, William S Beckett MD MPH, and Andrew Churg MD, editors. London: WB Saunders. 2002. Hard cover, illustrated, 638 pages, \$159.

The editors of this focused textbook are a distinguished group of clinical and research scholars with extensive expertise and international renown in occupational lung disorders and lung pathology. Drs Hendrick and Burge are based in the United Kingdom and Drs Beckett and Churg in North America. They gathered contributions from 62 authors from Europe, North America, and Australia, most of whom are well experienced and recognized in their fields.

The book is aimed primarily at physicians who evaluate and treat occupational lung diseases. However, its clear handling of the fun-

damentals of clinical entities and associated occupational etiologies also makes it useful for clinicians such as nurses, case managers, industry consultants, and respiratory therapists. It would also provide an excellent clinical complement for the library of an occupational (industrial) hygienist. In addition to the clinical sections, the sections on legislation and information technology give basic information that would be useful to anyone interested in staying up to date in this field and anyone who has to deal with the thorny issues of worker's compensation, claims making, and removal from work.

The book has 40 chapters and is divided into the following sections: Introductory chapters ("Why This Book? How to Use It," "Surveillance: Clinical and Epidemiological Perspectives," and "How to Take an Occupational Exposure History Relevant to Lung Disease"); specific disorders of the airways parenchyma and pleura; disorders associated with particular industries (automotive, chemicals and plastics, farming, health care, mining, welding, forestry, wood, paper, and printing); specialized disciplines (radiologic imaging, lung function measurement, occupational hygiene, mineralogical analysis of lung tissue); legislation controls and compensation (in North America; the Pacific, Far East, and Australasia; and Western Europe); and information technology (sources of information, centers for special diagnostic tests and knowledge in the aforementioned geographic regions). These sections work well to organize the material and facilitate the reader's search for answers to specific questions.

The chapters on specific disorders begin with a brief list of contents and end with summary points. The chapters follow a uniform format, with sections on background, recognition, management of both the individual and the workforce, prevention in the workplace and from a national regulatory standpoint, and a discussion of a difficult case. Supplementary but necessary information that does not fit into the generic scheme is provided in boxes. For instance, the supplementary boxes in the asthma chapter include discussions on byssinosis, immunologic tests, and inhalation provocation tests. This format eases looking up information and also decreases the variability in writing style typical in a multi-author textbook. Each chapter is self-contained and can be read individually as needed. The supplements, authored by experts other than those who wrote the chapter, allow for a more complete and detailed discussion of important issues that would not otherwise fit in the flow of the chap-

ter. I found these chapters accurate and complete, with good coverage of the challenging issues that diagnosis and management present. The summary points at the ends of the chapters are brief and vary in their usefulness, because they include generic comments that do not speak directly to the disorder.

The industry section reviews the disorders associated with given industries. It focuses on the occupational setting rather than on the disorders, which are discussed fully in the previous section. The section on industry is much-needed, to help practitioners understand the patient's working environment. For example, in the chapter on the automotive industry the process of making a car is elucidated in 2 clear, easy-to-follow diagrams that name the exposures and show the associated disorders. This demystifies what workers are likely to be doing in their jobs, what their potential exposures are, and what disorders to look for.

An added feature in most of the disorder and industry chapters is the discussion of a difficult case. This feature consists of a case chosen for its illustration of a challenging issue in management, occupational attribution of etiology, or interaction of exposures. Opinions from all of the book's contributors were elicited, and a concluding comment on the case reflects that input. This is an excellent and innovative feature: it reflects the complexities of real-life clinical practice and allows the reader to review the opinions of the book's expert contributors on controversial subjects.

The legislation and information technology section aims to lessen the burden for practitioners working without the benefit of an experienced staff to determine exposures, interpret the sampling levels, and identify the relevant regulations. It lists resources that are available on-line or by phone. The section is helpful and, although it does not substitute for the input of an experienced industrial hygienist, it allows a practitioner to begin the process.

The discussion on legislation provides sound basic information, and the overview of disability determination is helpful. This section would have been well served by a discussion of a difficult case of disability determination or an example of an outline of a complete independent medical examination. It would add value to this section to briefly discuss legal activities that may follow involvement in a clinical case, criteria for removal from work, and prescription of respiratory protection.

This is not a bulky manual and it has easy-to-read type. The chapter headings and subheadings are clear and useful (especially with their contrasting color background), as

are the figures and tables. I did not find any typographical errors in my reading of the volume. The illustrations are in black-and-white. The reproductions of electron photomicrographs in the chapter on man-made vitreous fibers are gorgeous and clear, as are most of the reproductions of radiographs and chest computed tomograms. Slides of histologic sections, and even some of the radiologic illustrations, would benefit from clarifying markers, such as arrows, to point out the salient features mentioned in the captions. Color plates of histologic sections would also add to the utility, although they may not be worth the added cost, especially if the labeling is expanded, as mentioned above. The text uses "American English," which makes it accessible for the North American user without making it difficult for others to navigate. For a multi-author book the text is remarkable for its uniform readability and clarity of language.

I found the references to the literature complete and representation of the data accurate and complete. Most of the controversial issues were treated fairly and thoroughly, with adequate referencing of the literature. For instance, the discussion of asbestos and the occurrence of lung cancer in those with and without pulmonary fibrosis (ie, asbestosis) is representative of discussions in this book. It is well developed and clear, with extensive referencing of the current epidemiologic evidence and analyses. The opinions of the authors (Michelle Ng Gong and David C Christiani) are clearly stated and identified as such.

The index is close to complete and adequate. Adding a list of the supplementary boxes and a list of the difficult cases (summarized by one line) to the table of contents would be helpful.

This is an excellent work, but it would be strengthened by fuller discussions of sinus and upper airway disease and indoor-environment-related disorders; and a chapter of the construction trades is needed to demystify that industry. In editions to follow the editors should apply their formidable skills to elucidate topics that present challenges on a regular basis in practice settings: sleep disorders and work, evaluations of lung health in the aftermath of natural and man-made disasters, discussion of the consequences of removal from work, and a discussion that would address patients who are immigrants from parts of the world where exposures at work sites and underlying pulmonary pathology pose unique challenges.

The editors state that this textbook serves to "draw attention to the changing nature of the contribution of the occupational environment... to lung disease... and to the particular difficulties this poses for those who find themselves responsible for patient care or the management of relevant industries." Furthermore, the chapter authors were charged with giving practical advice on the "recognition when a given respiratory disorder is occupational in origin, whether partly or wholly; managing its consequences in both the affected individual and his/her place of work and preventing its occurrence in the future." This text does very well to meet those goals. I recommend its addition to the libraries of pulmonologists, allergists, and occupational medicine practitioners with active occupational lung disease practices. It will also serve as an excellent reference for general respiratory practitioners, and for trainees who run into cases of occupational lung disease less frequently. I agree with the editors that this is a needed text that contributes to the understanding and recognition of the medical and nonmedical issues surrounding occupational lung disorders, at a time when diagnosing work-related disease is crucial, as it can lead to effective treatment and prevention.

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Pulmonary Biology in Health and Disease. F Edward Bittar MD, editor. New York: Springer-Verlag. 2002. Hard cover, illustrated, 428 pages, \$249.

Though this book classifies itself as a textbook, it is more like a compendium of topics in pulmonary biology and medicine. It is as if the editor asked several experts in the field to write about favorite topics in their expertise and each replied with a chapter in a different style, with different emphasis and different organization. Thus, there is no global unifying principle to the book. There is overlap in some areas and topics are overlooked in others. However, each chapter by itself can be considered a state-of-the-art review on the topic by an authority in the field. Thus, it is more of a reference than a textbook. Any health care worker interested in a specific topic would be well served by reading the appropriate chapter

or chapters, which, for the most part, stand alone.

There are 22 chapters. The first chapter deals with the anatomy of the respiratory system but, unlike many classical textbooks, there is an excellent discussion of the ultrastructures. Other topics that we would generally think as part of anatomy are interspersed with function and pathology chapters. For example, the second chapter deals with the airway epithelium; the third chapter discusses the chemistry and the pathology of surfactant; the fourth chapter covers the regulation of airway caliber; and asthma is detailed in Chapter 20, which provides an extensive discussion of the cells involved with inflammation.

What we typically think of as mechanics is discussed in Chapter 9, called "Mechanics of Respiration," but also in the sections on regulation of airway caliber (Chapter 4), the respiratory muscles (Chapter 8), and airway wall liquid (Chapter 13). There is also overlap between airway caliber and the development of the flow-volume loop and how it changes with obstruction such as asthma.

Control of respiration has its own chapter (Chapter 6), which is divided into concepts. Receptors are discussed in Chapter 5, arterial chemoreceptors in Chapter 7, regulation of airway caliber in Chapter 4, and regulation of acid-base balance in Chapter 15.

Chapter 10 is a classical discussion of gas exchange, from Fowler's dead space to West and Wagner's ventilation-perfusion model. It overlaps, by necessity, with the chapters on pulmonary circulation (Chapter 11) and the correlation between the pulmonary circulation and gas exchange (Chapter 14), although that topic also appears in the discussion of the mechanics of respiration (Chapter 9). Regulation of acid-base balance has its own chapter (Chapter 15), which is clear and effective. Though that too by necessity must overlap with the gas-exchange information, the treatment of the various acid-base disorders is clear and concise and should be helpful with anyone needing a straightforward explanation of that material.

Topics about fluid in the lungs are often overlooked; in this book they are discussed as lung water and the role of the bronchial circulation (Chapter 12) and as airway wall liquid (Chapter 13).

Some special topics, such as exercise, high altitude, and lung immunology, are covered in separate chapters, as is usually the case. The emphasis in the exercise chapter is on the effect of diseases, which is good for someone familiar with basic exercise physiology. The chapter on high-altitude