

nia. More pointers would make this book more helpful to non-pathologists.

The subsequent chapters cover various infections, generalized alveolar damage, edema, intra-alveolar hemorrhage, eosinophilic and lipid pneumonias, pulmonary alveolar proteinosis, sarcoidosis, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, collagen vascular disease, drug reactions, inflammatory bowel disease, the pneumoconioses, the idiopathic interstitial pneumonias, lymphangioleiomyomatosis, intravenous drug abuse, and Langerhans cell histiocytosis. Two chapters each deal with lung transplant and pediatrics. There is one chapter each on non-neoplastic large-airways pathology and primary ciliary dyskinesia. The last chapter, which is on the legal aspects of interpreting endobronchial and transbronchial biopsy specimens, emphasizes that some diagnoses cannot be made conclusively because of the limited amount of biopsy material.

In general the chapters provide useful information in limited words. The chapter on fungi might benefit by including examples other than histoplasma, such as blastomyces, cryptococcus, and coccidioides. I did not see much on the human immunodeficiency virus. Information on acute fibrinous and organizing pneumonia could have been included in the chapter on diffuse alveolar damage. When the authors discussed pulmonary hemorrhage, they could have included a figure of Wegener granulomatosis, which is a somewhat "common" vasculitis. The authors rightfully emphasize that diagnosing certain lung conditions (eg, pneumoconiosis, idiopathic interstitial pneumonias) requires more tissue than can be obtained via transbronchial biopsy (ie, requires surgical biopsy). The section on idiopathic interstitial pneumonias is another example of providing superb information in a concise manner. The authors clearly differentiate the various pathologies (usual interstitial pneumonia, nonspecific interstitial pneumonia, respiratory bronchiolitis-associated interstitial lung disease, desquamate interstitial pneumonia, cryptogenic organizing pneumonia, and acute interstitial pneumonia) and indicate when more than transbronchial biopsies are needed to make the diagnosis. A few more examples on acute lung transplant rejection, dealing with grades A4, B1R, and B2R, would round out that chapter. The section on endobronchial and transbronchial biopsies in the pediatric population is very informative.

The book contains a goodly amount of material on many lung pathologies and is arranged in clearly titled chapters. The book's unique feature is its focus on endobronchial and transbronchial biopsies. The text is informative and concise and usually complete, but lacks references to support the important, and occasionally contentious, points. The figures are of high quality and highlight the pathologies, but suffer from the lack of pointers such as arrows, which might dissuade a pulmonologist or other non-pathologist from buying it. Although the book's focus is bronchoscopically obtained biopsies, in some instances (eg, interstitial pneumonias, vasculitides) showing a surgically obtained biopsy alongside the bronchoscopically obtained one would help explain and emphasize the authors' points. Overall, **Transbronchial and Endobronchial Biopsies** provides a succinct, well illustrated guide to bronchoscopically obtained biopsies in a wide array of lung pathologies and should be a useful reference for the practicing pathologist.

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Respiratory Nursing: A Core Curriculum. Michele Geiger-Bronsky MSN RN APNP FNP-C, Donna J Wilson MSN RN RRT, editors. New York: Springer. 2008. Hard cover, 680 pages, \$85.

Breathing is critical to life; however, respiratory nursing has often remained in the background and has not received the same level of specialized training available to other nursing specialties. It is exciting to read a book where the major phenomena of respiratory nursing are brought together in one place. This book begins to define the scope of practice for the nurse who works with respiratory patients.

This book was originally conceptualized in 1999 as a project of the Respiratory Nursing Society (<http://www.respiratorynursingsociety.org>), a professional association for nurses interested in respiratory health and quality nursing care for those with respiratory disorders. The intention for the book was to create a core curriculum that would

eventually provide content for a respiratory nursing certification exam. This 657-page book was written by 55 contributors and 5 editors, with blinded peer review of each chapter by at least 3 experts. The author list is a "who's who" in respiratory nursing for the last 30 years. It is not surprising that a project of this magnitude, which was completed by a large number of professional clinicians and researchers who have busy personal and professional lives, took nearly a decade of dedication from initial project conceptualization until publication. It is a testimony to their dedication to respiratory nursing that these authors and editors persisted with the project and provided us with a thorough reference book.

This first edition of **Respiratory Nursing: A Core Curriculum** succeeds in the process of "identifying necessary skills, knowledge, and abilities for a designated group"—the goal of a core curriculum. The book is divided into 7 sections, including professional development, basic knowledge (primarily physiology and assessment), human responses to respiratory dysfunction (symptoms), common respiratory diseases and disorders (medical diagnoses), pediatrics, therapeutics, and ethical issues. Within each section, 3 or more chapters are dedicated to specific topics of interest to respiratory nurses. The majority of the book (268 pages) includes discussion of common respiratory diseases and disorders (medical diagnoses). Other major sections focus on symptoms and therapeutic modalities.

The book is written in outline format, similar to the well-established certified critical care nurse and certified emergency nurse core curriculum books. Each chapter devoted to a symptom, disease, or pediatrics includes a definition and sections on etiology, pathophysiology, incidence, considerations across the lifespan, assessment, and therapeutic modalities. Some chapters also include cultural considerations, relevant theories, complications, outcomes, and home-care considerations. Each chapter concludes with a list of references and/or suggested readings for more information, and if relevant Web sites are included, they are placed either under the interventions section or at the end of the chapter.

The book is attractive and sturdy, and the print and paper are of good quality and durability. The type is adequate and easy to read. The illustrations and tables are helpful for summarizing and clarifying the content, and more figures and tables would be ap-

preciated. The table of contents and index are useful resources to assist the reader in finding information quickly.

Although the book is written by and for nurses, the vast majority of the content is valuable information for any professional with an interest in the care of patients with lung disease. I found the book a helpful comprehensive reference for quickly finding information on most subjects related to the care of the pulmonary patient, both in chronic and acute care settings.

The authors are to be commended for seeing this project through to completion. Many of the book's weaknesses can be traced back to the length of the writing and publication process. Few of the references are more recent than 2004, and most of them were published prior to 2002. For example, the chapter on respiratory nursing research was based on the American Thoracic Society nursing research priorities published in 1998, rather than the updated 2006 priorities (<http://www.thoracic.org/sections/publications/statements/pages/respiratory-disease-adults/471.html>). Since 2002 there has been an explosion in the research literature on respiratory nursing, especially in the evidence for specific interventions, so the next edition of the book with updated references will be welcome.

Unfortunately, the referencing of key points is intermittent throughout the book. Some chapters (eg, those on dyspnea and cystic fibrosis) include a reference with most bullet points, pointing the interested reader to more information on the topic. This feature would be helpful to include in all of the

chapters of a future edition. In addition, an annotation beside each recommended Web site on the value of the Web site from the authors' perspective (as in the chapter on quality of life and functional ability issues) would improve the value of the Web site recommendations to the reader.

Although this book includes a wealth of reference information that can be easily accessed, it would improve the readability if the subtitles and outline format were more consistent between chapters. The lack of consistency in organizational format, such as the lack of headings after the introduction in some chapters, level-one headings in one chapter that are level-two headings in other chapters, and consecutively repeated outline numerals in some chapters, disrupts the continuity of the book.

There seems to be an artificial distinction in some chapters between "common therapeutic modalities" and "interventions." I'm not clear on the rationale for that distinction or the reasons they are discussed in separate sections in some chapters (eg, impaired sleep, persistent cough). In at least one chapter (depression), "interventions" is a subtopic underneath "common therapeutic modalities." Perhaps the intention was best operationalized in the chapters on asthma and allergies, interstitial lung disease, and pneumonias, which include a section on common therapeutic modalities, followed by a section on nursing interventions. In the pneumonia chapter a table with nursing interventions was added and appreciated for clear and easy reference.

Since this is a book devoted to nursing practice, it would be informative to include a section devoted to the nursing perspective in each chapter. A quick check of the index reveals that "nursing implications" is only referenced 10 times (in a nursing book with 45 chapters). A discussion of the role of the nurse in respect to each chapter topic would be a welcome addition to the book. Several of the chapters, such as those on the topics of anxiety and depression, consider those topics from a general perspective, and do not consider either the specific needs of the respiratory patient or the respiratory-specific functions of the nurse.

This book is an extremely ambitious undertaking for a small professional organization to complete successfully. I hope that a second edition will be published soon, using this first edition as a foundation for updates from more current literature. This first edition nicely outlines the many facets of respiratory nursing and gives excellent introductory information about each topic. With consistent editing between chapters, the inclusion of current references for each topic giving the interested reader more information, and the development of a respiratory nursing certification examination, this book is poised to become a critical component of the ongoing development of professional respiratory nursing.

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