**Book Review**


The new Edition of Vascular surgery with 2736 pages has expanded substantially and is recently updated with several new chapters. The book is divided into 23 chapters with overwhelmingly North-American contributors. Several of the chapters are completely re-written by new authors, whereas others are updates of previous chapters.

The particular strength of this book, and also being the first of its kind, is that in the online version, there are regular updates retrievable through the worldwide web, which makes the book outstanding in its field. For those who would look for updates in a specific field and who prefer to get “filtered” or previewed information this is possible to get through these updates, which are like a condensed abstract, resulting in a good opportunity to get such information.

The present edition is like previous ones, systematically dealing with basic considerations diagnostic tools, physiology as well as the non-operative management of patients with vascular diseases. These chapters are very well written and also with necessary updates resulting in a book with a very short time-delay between the appearance of original publications and the manifestation in the textbook, which is not always the case in medical textbooks.

The chapter on the generalised arteriosclerosis of the vascular patient is extensively described also presenting a pathway for drug-treatment, helping the vascular surgeon without an angiologist on his side to effectively treat his patient. The chapter on vascular pain is very useful too, especially for younger colleagues trying to correlate the patient’s symptoms with clinical findings. The chapter on abdominal aortic and iliac aneurysms is very well written with fresh updates of all the latest randomised trials and dealing with such important topics like decision making when to operatively treat an elective aortic aneurysm. The complete chapter on the endovascular treatment of aortic aneurysms is also well written including coverage of various stent grafts.

“Fundamentals in endovascular surgery” has got its own chapter and is very constructive for those vascular surgeons, who have not yet entered the endovascular arena.

The results of such endovascular techniques, including thrombolytic therapy are well addressed in the chapters on acute limb ischemia, and intra-arterially catheter directed thrombolysis.

The chapter on venous malformation is too very well written and divided in such a way that it is easy to specifically find answers to narrow questions and rarely appearing diseases.

The chapter on vascular thoracic trauma, though, is almost only dealing with open techniques in the arsenal for managing these injuries, and very little is highlighted on the new endovascular management, which at least in the present time in Europe, has been shown to produce good results. It would have been preferable to have this chapter being expanded with the results using these modalities.

The chapter on venous access and its complications is well written but I am missing some of the unusually shunts like subclavian to subclavian or subclavian to jugular just to mention a few. This is especially important since venous access is becoming increasingly important for the vascular surgeon.

This bible in Vascular Surgery should be in the library of every vascular department and it is of a great value for a fulltime vascular and endovascular surgeon, but could be used by general surgeons who want to be updated in the vascular field. This book is highly recommended, and with all its figures and illustrations it is easy to read and can also be used for students with specific or special interest of vascular surgery.

J. Brunkwall
Department of Vascular Surgery,
University of Cologne,
Joseph Stelzmannstrasse 9,
D-50931 Cologne, NRW, Germany
E-mail address: jan.brunkwall@uk-koeln.de

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