

ciency, perceived or ignored, continue to recruit the academic aspirant innocent of the enormous work load a double career entails? The junior surgical scientist also needs some insight into the increasingly difficult task of obtaining continuous funding, especially when into the second and third decades of a research endeavor. Chapter 64, "The clinician with a basic science laboratory," by O. D. Rotstein, addresses the difficulties inherent in a combined clinical-research career and the organization developed at the University of Toronto to deal with them.

This chapter should be required reading not only for academic aspirants but especially for their mentors, section, division, and department chiefs, and deans or vice presidents on whom rest the responsibilities for providing the time, funding, resources, and support services needed by the investigator.

The editors cite the sacrifices inherent in a successful clinical and research career with several expressions of thanks to their spouses, families, staffs, and friends as they, the editors, gave countless hours to the creation of these three editions.

I have one last word. A short essay on the realities of developing a successful clinical practice while simultaneously creating and maintaining a continuously funded surgical research program would be of assistance to the aspiring surgeon scientist.

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### **Angiology in practice**

A. -M. Salmasi, A. Strano; Dordrecht; 1996; Kluwer; 526 pages; \$276.00.

There is certainly no shortage of textbooks for cardiovascular medicine. However, there are only a few books that attempt to expose the entire subject of cardiovascular medicine from the perspectives of angiology, cardiology, and general internal medicine and that consider epidemiologic and theoretical aspects as well. This is precisely what *Angiology in practice* strives to do.

The book is divided into nine parts with a total of 35 chapters that focus on the following topics: general pathophysiologic considerations; diseases of the cerebrovascular system; diseases of the coronary arteries; diseases of the aorta and the arteries of the upper limb; diseases of the arteries of the lower limb; diseases of the renal, celiac, and mesenteric arteries; hypertension; diseases of the venous system; and associated general illnesses and related conditions.

Because of the broad spectrum of topics, one conspicuous consequence noted in each chapter is the concentration that is placed on the fundamentals. This focus on the basics is both a strength and a weakness of the book. The

reader who is seeking a multidisciplinary introduction into angiology in a manageable form will be satisfied by this book. However, the reader who expects detailed information on the theoretical background, the relative importance, the indications, and the limitations of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and approaches will have to be referred to established standard textbooks.

As expected in any book written by 63 authors, the quality of the contents, the style, and the expressive presentation of the individual chapters varies to some extent. For example, there is a well-written, in both style and content, 27-page introduction to epidemiology that is oriented toward coronary artery disease. As a comparison, there is a 9-page chapter on the investigation of extracranial carotid disease, in which the technical background, the advantages, and the limitations of ultrasound scan diagnostic procedures are not considered, nor is the currently pressing question of the "gold standard" (angiography versus duplex sonography).

While reading the book, the following four conceptual problems were noted: discrepancy in the quality of some chapters, cross-references that were not always done in a consistent fashion, some individual chapters that the publishers did not linguistically edit, and an unstandardized basic reference strategy. Some of the chapters do include an excellent reference section; thus, even when certain topics could only be covered in an outline fashion because of space limitations, the reader still has a complete list of references available. Unfortunately, this remark does not apply to all chapters in this book. The authors include both native and non-native English speakers, which negatively influences how the text flows in certain parts of the book. A thorough editing by the publishers would have been welcome. With this book, the editors have been successful in creating a text that provides an excellent overview that concisely presents almost all relevant questions regarding arterial and venous vascular diseases and that also addresses the most important general internal medicine and epidemiology aspects of angiology. This book is geared primarily towards general physicians and general surgical and medical residents who have an interest in angiology; however, the book cannot be viewed as competition to the current, established textbooks of angiology and vascular surgery but rather as a supplement to these works. The book is easy-to-read and presents even complex facts in an understandable manner. If it were not for the steep price of \$276.00, the book could also be recommended for medical students.

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