

Book Reviews

P.A. Schneider. Book review for European Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery. In: Schillinger, Minar, ed. Complications in Peripheral Vascular Interventions

Many timely factors have contributed to the development of endovascular procedures; one of the most important of these is the promise of the lower morbidity of minimally invasive techniques as compared to open surgery. Minimizing the risk of vascular interventions remains a challenge and will not occur without a determined effort. Supporting this statement is the contemporary paradox of vascular treatment: as we attempt endovascular treatment of more complex disease, complication rates and types increase and some will rival open surgical treatment. A clear cut evaluation, critical analysis, and advice for prevention and management of complications is needed and is found in this book.

This is the best book on endovascular complications that I have seen. It is an excellent contribution to the available publications and will be of value to practitioners and trainees of all specialties that are practicing minimally invasive vascular treatment. This book is comprehensive, but is not a book of useless lists. It contains up to date reporting of the available literature as well as pearls and tips for preventing, diagnosing, and managing complications.

The book has two parts. The first part describes general issues affecting all endovascular procedures, such as, identifying high risk patients, contrast associated complications, and radiotoxicity. The second part covers procedures in each non-coronary vascular bed. These specific procedure chapters follow a specific outline that gives the book an appealing presentation. These sections include; frequency and type of complications, complications of specific interventional steps, diagnosis of complications, treatment of complications, prevention of complications, summary, and check list for emergency equipment. There are many example complications presented. The representative angiograms included in the book are excellent, clear, and presented well. The references are numerous

and recent and the indexing appears to be complete. The chapters on contrast associated complications and the risks of radiation were thorough and interesting. All of the chapters covering specific vascular beds were strong. The standout contributions were the ones on carotid stenting, subclavian and vertebral stenting, renal and mesenteric, aortoiliac, tibioperoneal, and dialysis grafts. My only suggestion for the next edition would be to evaluate the worst complications that we all fear in the following way: perform a decision analysis on how these complications occur and offer a step-by-step for how to get out of it if it does occur.

I highly recommend this book to any endovascular enthusiast and assume that it will become a staple of the vascular library.

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Vascular Surgery. Linda Hands, Michael Murphy, Michael Sharp, Simon Ray-Chaudhuri, eds, 2007. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK, pages 471; £39.95.

This is a handbook covering briefly the whole spectrum of vascular medicine and surgery and gives to reader a brief overview of the pathophysiology, clinical presentation and the management of vascular diseases. Its format is appropriate for medical students and surgical/vascular surgical trainees.

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The 1st chapter is dedicated to the pathophysiology, risk factors and clinical presentation of the arterial and venous disorders giving briefly all what is needed for the understanding of the vascular pathologies.

The 2nd and 3rd chapters are most valuable for the medical students and trainees as they provide quick but complete information on how to take the history and examine the patient with a vascular problem, followed by the 4th chapter that deals with the investigations needed to confirm the diagnosis. Nevertheless, it is my impression that the 4th chapter could provided more information in the form of pictures regarding the intra-arterial angiography, MR-angiography and CT-angiography that would help medical student and trainees to understand their value in the diagnosis. The 5th chapter gives a good overview of the non-operative treatment of arterial and venous disease. I would prefer, nevertheless, a more accurate definition of this chapter as endovascular management is in reality operative treatment, though minimally invasive, carried out in many countries in Europe in the operating room. Chapter 6 is dedicated to the management of leg ulcers and it is extremely helpful for medical students and trainees.

It was my great pleasure to see that in this book there are chapters dedicated to perioperative management of ischaemic heart disease (chapter 7) and to anaesthesia for vascular surgery (chapter 8). This is extremely important and helpful to junior doctors to understand the complexity in the decision making of managing vascular patients and how consciously the physician should decide. The chapters 9 and 10 are also helpful to all doctors, especially to those in training to

understand why coagulation and bleeding problems as well as the infection prophylaxis and treatment are of paramount importance in the management of vascular patients. Chapter 11 provides brief information on the grafts used as conduits for bypass and chapter 12 presents the most common exposures and techniques used in vascular surgery with the help of very good figures. The chapters 13 to 21 are dedicated to the vascular operations with simple description and using very helpful figures that makes easy the understanding not only to surgical trainees but also to medical students. The book finishes with a last chapter in which the authors give their thoughtful views regarding the future of vascular surgery.

In summary, this is a handbook that surgical trainees and medical students will find it as a valuable companion during their practice at the hospital dealing with vascular patients. It covers briefly the wide spectrum of the diagnosis and management of vascular diseases and its price makes it a good value for money. It is highly recommended as it compares favourably with other handbooks on the same subject.

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Informa, 2010. â€” 308 p. â€” ISBN: 9781841847313. This new title provides a systematic review of complex cases in peripheral vascular interventions (PVI), a minimal invasive endovascular approach to treating peripheral arteries. This increasingly evolving area in interventional therapies offers reduced risk for complications compared to conventional surgery and takes advantage of advanced techniques to treat more complex lesions in severely diseased patients. This book edited by two highly respected professors from the University of Vienna, Medical School describes typical and atypical complex cas