

BOOK REVIEW

NOTEBOOK OF MEDICAL PHYSIOLOGY-CARDIOPULMONARY By Ross W. Hawker, Published by CHURCHILL LIVINGSTONE, Edinburgh, London & New York, 1979, pp. 1-334, Price £5.95 (Distributors in India : M/s B.I. Publications, 359, Dr. D.N. Road, Bombay-400 023).

This is not a classical text book of physiology, but a revision text aimed primarily at postgraduate students preparing for medical and surgical disciplines, and in The British set-up, evidently for those undertaking FRCS, FRACS, MRCP and other such examinations. The book is characterized by various types of illustrations and flow-diagrams keeping the descriptive text to the minimum truly acquiring the shape of a notebook. This approach has allowed the compression of large areas of physiology without in anyway compromising with facts and current concepts. The book is clinically oriented and does not contain unnecessary high flown theories and so-called modern advances. Therefore, it could also be of great use to medical students in both preclinical and clinical years.

The nine chapters of the book dealing with heart, circulation, heart rate and blood pressure, heart function tests, clinical monitoring in the intensive care units, O₂ and CO₂ in blood and body, pulmonary ventilation, regulation of respiration and applied physiology of lungs cover almost all that is required and recommended for postgraduate students of clinical disciplines. With the institution of MNAMS examinations in India, this would be an excellent aid for revising physiology for the primary examinations in both surgical and medical specialities. It would also be useful to postgraduate students of physiology aiming to revise basic facts of clinical physiology.

The "reading list" and the multiple choice questions given at the end of each chapter, and the list of abbreviations and symbols at the end of this notebook further enhance its value.

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