REVIEW OF RECENT BOOKS

Mastery of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Third Edition
2014, Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
1210 pp, illustrated, $289.99
ISBN: 978-1-4511-1315-0

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The third edition of Mastery of Cardiothoracic Surgery is another outstanding compilation of techniques creatively described and illustrated by internationally recognized experts in the field. The new edition has more color design and art, new chapters on percutaneous valve procedures, minimally invasive arrhythmia surgery, thoracic sympathectomy, and repair of pectus deformities, and a companion website providing full mobile access to the text.

Similar to previous editions, the book is organized into three sections: thoracic, adult heart, and congenital. The general thoracic surgery section offers a good mixture of classical approaches and subtle nuances of practice. The sections on endobrachial ultrasound video-assisted thoracic surgery and robotic surgery are current and state of the art, and the numerous illustrations are informative and extremely helpful.

The adult heart section has chapters on all the commonly performed procedures. The chapters are presented in a well-organized, easy-to-follow technical descriptive essential to the student and trainee. In addition, chapters on annuloaortic ectasia, arch aneurysm, and aortic dissection are truly exceptional and worthy of the attention of any surgeon performing thoracic aortic surgery. The section on surgical treatment of atrial arrhythmias is well illustrated, straightforward, and simply the most cogent description published on this complex topic.

The congenital surgery section is a well-written primer useful for procedural methodology, board review, and a detailed analysis of the contemporary state of congenital heart surgery. Contributing authors are each highly acclaimed, and they discuss their individual fields of expertise in a concise and informative manner. Special mention is warranted on the insightful editorial comments at the end of each section that are especially relevant, often placing a common sense perspective to complex and controversial issues.

In summary, while this text is primarily directed toward the student, resident, and young surgeon, there are numerous sections of interest to even the most experienced surgeon. The third edition of Mastery of Cardiothoracic Surgery is well deserving of a place in the library of every practicing cardiothoracic surgeon.