Book Review

Airway Management in the Critically Ill

Rade B. Vukmir. Parthenon Publishing Group Ltd., UK. 2001. \$64.95. 136 pages. ISBN 1-84214-046-9

This is a single-authored book divided into five chapters. The book is concise and printing characters make it easy to read. The first chapter discusses the indications and the procedure of endotracheal intubation. A great emphasis has been put on medications and muscle relaxants while the description of techniques of endotracheal intubation could have been developed more. Chapter two addresses the difficult airway situation. Here again, excessive emphasis has been put on the description of the numerous laryngoscope blades available. Chapter three is very short (6 pages). It describes well the manoeuvres for confirmation of proper placement of the endotracheal tube. The complications of endotracheal intubation are discussed in chapter four. The double-lumen endotracheal tubes are also described in this chapter(!) The last chapter gives a good description of the technique of percutaneous and open cricothyroidotomy and tracheotomy. Overall this book contains very few new information and is not of great interest to the anesthesiologist, whether experienced or not.

Martin Lessard MD FRCPC
Québec, Québec