

## EMS BOOK REVIEW

### 1. General Information:

- a. **Title:** Manual of Advanced Prehospital Care
- b. **Author:** Walraven, Harding, Leblanc, Murphy, Nerney
- c. **Publishing Company:** Robert J. Brady
- d. **Copyright:**
- e. **Cost:** \$14.95
- f. **Title of supplemental manuals or workbooks:** None
- g. **Name of EMS Book Reviewer:** Rick Murray
- h. **EMS Position of EMS Book Reviewer:** EMS Field Supervisor, PHR 5
- i. **Submitted to EMS Book Review Committee Membership:** Eric Kunish
- j. **Date:** September 13, 1982
- k. **Pages:** 429 pages

### 2. What training level(s) does this book apply?

EMT-Special Skills and Paramedic

### 3. Can this book be used as a complete text or as a supplement?

Supplemental

### 4. Is the writing style likeable and consistent?

Yes, I found the text to be pleasant and easy to read.

### 5. Is the level of presentation of material commensurate with the average student's capabilities?

Yes. The material should be easily understood by the average paramedic.

### 6. Are definitions, explanations and illustrations clear?

Yes. The definitions and illustrations are clear and concise. I found the listing of common medical abbreviations very helpful. The book definitely needs the addition of a glossary.

### 7. Is the content accurate?

Yes, although published in 1978, the text appears to be current and accurate.

### 8. Are there numerous typographical or grammatical errors that reduce student clarity?

The text appears to be free of typographical or grammatical errors.

### 9. Are objectives presented and followed?

Since this text is designed to be a reference used by practicing field paramedics, there are no learning objectives needed.

### 10. Are chapter objectives logical, reasonable and properly sequential?

I found the chapters to be in a logical arrangement.

### 11. Is the approach of this book different than other EMS books available?

Yes, this text is specifically designed to be a reference for practicing paramedics and not a teaching text.

**12. Are there additions or deletions needed?**

Yes, a glossary and expand the neuro chapter.

**13. Generally, what is/are the book's strongest point(s)?**

The book is heavily weighted in two areas: Pharmacology/Drugs (72 pages) and Arrhythmias (127 pages). The self-assessment section at the end of each chapter is invaluable.

**14. Generally, what is/are the book's weakest point(s)?**

Neuro: no mention of decorticate or decerebrate posturing, bottle's sign or coon eyes – all of which are significant clinical signs. Only seven pages are devoted to all trauma injuries.

**15. What other comments do you have?**

For a book designed to be a field reference text, I feel it is devoted too strongly to Pharmacology and Arrhythmias and it slights the other topics. It would be beneficial to drop some of the basic reviews on drugs and arrhythmias and add some of the more clinical signs associated with trauma or medical emergencies.

## EMS BOOK REVIEW

### 1. General Information:

- a. **Title:** Orthopaedics in Emergency Care
- b. **Author:** F. Richard Schneider
- c. **Publishing Company:** The C. V. Mosby Company
- d. **Copyright:** 1980
- e. **Cost:** Approximately \$12.95
- f. **Title of supplemental manuals or workbooks:** None
- g. **Name of EMS Book Reviewer:** John DeLuna
- h. **EMS Position of EMS Book Reviewer:** Field Consultant
- i. **Submitted to EMS Book Review Committee Membership:** Rick Murray
- j. **Date:** October 19, 1982
- k. **Pages:** 177 pages

### 2. What training level(s) does this book apply?

None, although any person with a thorough knowledge of medicine might derive some value from it.

### 3. Can this book be used as a complete text or as a supplement?

Supplement

### 4. Is the writing style likeable and consistent?

Yes. Very easily read.

### 5. Is the level of presentation of material commensurate with the average student's capabilities?

No. The book seems to be more suited for the physician.

### 6. Are definitions, explanations, and illustrations clear?

A glossary is not included for terms the reader might not be familiar with. The illustrations are numerous and appear adequate.

### 7. Is the content accurate?

Apparently so.

### 8. Are there numerous typographical or grammatical errors that reduce student clarity?

No

### 9. Are objectives presented and followed?

Yes

### 10. Are chapter objectives logical, reasonable, and properly sequential?

Yes. Each chapter covers a certain area of injuries (i.e., spinal injuries, elbow injuries, etc.). Each chapter is also sequential in terms of head-to-toe assessment (i.e., pelvic injuries, hip joint injuries, thigh injuries, knee injuries, etc.).

11. **Is the approach of this book different than other EMS books available?**  
No
12. **Are there additions or deletions needed?**  
No
13. **Generally, what is/are the book's strongest point(s)?**  
The strong points of the book are:
- a. It is sequential in order and it appears to more than adequately cover most possible injuries.
  - b. The initial chapter provides a guideline to the initial evaluation of musculoskeletal trauma, which also serves as a review of patient assessment.
  - c. The 2nd chapter is devoted to non-traumatic orthopaedic problems such as tumors, arthritis, tendonitis, carpal tunnel syndrome, and ingrown toenails.
  - d. Illustrations are plentiful and easily decipherable.
14. **Generally, what is/are the book's weakest point(s)?**  
It has very little use for prehospital providers. It is more suited as a guideline to the physician on the management of the various orthopaedic problems they might encounter in the emergency department.
15. **What other comments do you have?**  
Despite the previously noted weakness, it is a very informative book that can provide the reader with an expanded knowledge of the various orthopaedic emergencies that might be encountered in the prehospital setting.

## EMS BOOK REVIEW

### 1. General Information:

- a. **Title:** Rapid Interpretation of E.K.G.'s
- b. **Author:** Dale Dubin, M.D.
- c. **Publishing Company:** Cover Publishing Company
- d. **Copyright:** October 1974
- e. **Cost:** Unknown
- f. **Title of supplemental manuals or workbooks:** None
- g. **Name of EMS Book Reviewer:** Jim Arnold
- h. **EMS Position of EMS Book Reviewer:** EMS Regional Supervisor
- i. **Submitted to EMS Book Review Committee Membership:** Paul Tabor
- j. **Date:** October 13, 1982
- k. **Pages:** 291 pages

### 2. What training level(s) does this book apply?

Paramedic

### 3. Can this book be used as a complete text or as a supplement?

Supplemental

### 4. Is the writing style likeable and consistent?

The text is consistently simplified and enjoyable. The short, appropriate statements, clear illustrations, and self-pacing, fill-in-the-blanks type format make the learning process a "game".

### 5. Is the level of presentation of material commensurate with the average student's capabilities?

Absolutely. The text acquaints the technically ignorant novice with the basics of heart anatomy and function and paces the student through a course of learning which results in a level of moderate competency in E.K.G. recognition. Students of any reasonable level of capability would benefit from this book.

### 6. Are definitions, explanations and illustrations clear?

Yes. Diagrams, illustrations and charts are clearly appropriate to the content. Simplicity appears to be the rule here, too.

### 7. Is the content accurate?

Yes. The content is limited to strictly practical application with little theoretical discussion. In this respect, the text is absolutely accurate.

### 8. Are there numerous typographical or grammatical errors that reduce student clarity?

The book is free of gross errors of grammar and typesetting. An occasional word is misspelled but none are found to be distracting.

### 9. Are objectives presented and followed?

The text is intended as a programmed instruction manual for skill development. There are no individually stated behavioral objectives listed.

10. **Are chapter objectives logical, reasonable and properly sequential?**  
Not necessarily applicable to this book.
11. **Is the approach of this book different than other EMS books available?**  
Yes. Given the complexity of electrocardiogram interpretation and the routine difficulties instructors encounter in teaching this particular skill, I found the rapid, self-learning approach of the programmed instruction format unusual, but quite germane to EMS education and, perhaps more appropriate than most other texts of the presentation/discussion formats.
12. **Are there additions or deletions needed?**  
Certainly more conceptual knowledge of cardiac function, dysfunction, diagnostics, and management is required within the parameters of the paramedic course, but for its intent, Dr. Dubin's book incorporates a proprietary completeness.
13. **Generally, what is/are the book's strongest point(s)?**  
The ease of acquiring the behavioral skill through the programmed learning process.
14. **Generally, what is/are the book's weakest point(s)?**  
The simplicity of presentation may be counter-productive to understanding related theoretical concepts which are not addressed in this book.
15. **What other comments to you have?**  
Rapid Interpretation of E.K.G.'s could only be recommended as a supplemental text for paramedic classes and its application would be beneficial only in the first stages of instruction. Its content and presentation are so simplistic that the course progresses well beyond its utility. However, as an introductory vehicle to cardiac management and E.K.G. interpretation, the book is functional toward facilitating rapidly acquired knowledge.

## EMS BOOK REVIEW

### 1. General Information:

- a. **Title:** Pharmacology and Therapeutics in Emergency Care
- b. **Author:** Stephen Margolis, Ph.D., and Jonathan Wasserberger, M.D.
- c. **Publishing Company:** Multi-Media Publishing, Inc.
- d. **Copyright:** 1982
- e. **Cost:** \$13.95
- f. **Title of supplemental manuals or workbooks:** None
- g. **Name of EMS Book Reviewer:** Paul A. Tabor
- h. **EMS Position of EMS Book Reviewer:** EMS Field Consultant, PHR 8
- i. **Submitted to EMS Book Review Committee Membership:** Paul A. Tabor
- j. **Date:** October 13, 1982
- k. **Pages:** 308 plus bibliography and index

### 2. What training level(s) does this book apply?

Paramedic

### 3. Can this book be used as a complete text or as a supplement?

Supplemental

### 4. Is the writing style likeable and consistent?

Yes. The authors' style makes this book easy to read with its bold print, extra large capital letters and its spacing.

### 5. Is the level of presentation of material commensurate with the average student's capabilities?

Generally yes, although there are sections concerning the chemistry of drug metabolism and gas exchange, etc., that probably are beyond the average EMT-P's ability to understand without an extensive background in chemistry. But even in these instances, the charts and pictures which accompany the discussion help simplify the material enough that if one wants to dig a little bit, he should be able to get the general idea of what is going on.

### 6. Are definitions, explanations and illustrations clear?

Yes. They are both simple and appropriate.

### 7. Is the content accurate?

Yes. Of course, drug dosages listed in the book may vary slightly from local protocols.

### 8. Are there numerous typographical or grammatical errors that reduce student clarity?

No

### 9. Are objectives presented and followed?

Yes. There are "Learning Goals" stated at the beginning of each chapter which are precisely followed.

### 10. Are chapter objectives logical, reasonable and properly sequential?

Yes

**11. Is the approach of this book different than other EMS books available?**

Only in the sense that this is one of the few books this reviewer has seen where a whole book on pharmacology was devoted to the prehospital environment.

**12. Are there additions or deletions needed?**

In this reviewer's opinion, a glossary would improve this book. Throughout the body of the text as new words are encountered and defined, they are capitalized in extra-large letters. This is good and the readers' eyes are drawn immediately to these new words. But a complete glossary at the end of the book of all such words would be a welcomed addition.

Also, this reviewer would like to see the chapter on special problems of infants, children, pregnancy, and the aged expanded beyond its 14 current pages of text.

**13. Generally, what is/are the book's strongest point(s)?**

There are "Emergency Situations" given at the end of each chapter (65 total). This helps draw one's mind to the practical application of what she has just read. A field situation is given and then several questions are asked. The authors' analyses of these situations are found at the back of the book.

Following this are "Self-Evaluation" questions also in each chapter (approximately 375 total). These are multiple choice and true/false, thus making for an excellent battery of test questions for the astute instructor. Yes, the answers are also given.

Chapter 28 called "The Drug Box" is a strong point for this text. It lists what the authors call the 27 drugs most commonly used by emergency systems. Each page gives the brand names, pharmacological actions, route of administration, desired actions, contraindications, undesired effects, adverse reactions, dosage range, and preparation of each drug in handy chart form.

The third and final section of the book called "Therapeutic Procedures for Emergency Service Personnel" is extremely useful. It covers such topics as "Evaluation of the Victim, The Drug Box..., Drug Maintenance and Quality Assurance, Drug Administration Procedures" (including Sub Q, IM, IV injection and infusion, sublingual, and intrapulmonary), and special problems of children, neonates, pregnant females, elderly patients, and some chronic medical (pathological) conditions that can create therapeutic problems for emergency personnel.

**14. Generally, what is/are the book's weakest point(s)?**

Lack of a glossary.

**15. What other comments do you have?**

All in all, this is an extremely practical pharmacology text without slighting the necessary theory. It is well balanced between theory and practicality. It is an excellent learning tool and should be in the possession of every Paramedic instructor and EMS library. I wholeheartedly recommend it.

## EMS BOOK REVIEW

### 1. General Information:

- a. Title: Emergency Cardiac Care
- b. Author: Robert J. Huszer, M.D.
- c. Publishing Company: Robert J. Brady Company
- d. Copyright: 1982
- e. Cost: \$17.95
- f. Title of supplemental manuals or workbooks: None
- g. Name of EMS Book Reviewer: Bonnie Jackson
- h. EMS Position of EMS Book Reviewer: Associate Director, EMS Training, Lubbock
- i. Submitted to EMS Book Review Committee Membership: Terry Bavousett
- j. Date: September 29, 1982
- k. Pages: 442

### 2. What training level(s) does this book apply?

EMT-Special Skills and Paramedic

### 3. Can this book be used as a complete text or as a supplement?

The book is best used as a supplement rather than a complete text for the paramedic level student; however, it comes near being a complete text for the special skills level student.

### 4. Is the writing style likeable and consistent?

Acceptable and consistent. Where steps for procedures are given, they are easy to read and understand.

### 5. Is the level of presentation of material commensurate with the average student's capabilities?

Presentation seems directly aimed at special skills and paramedic students, so it is written at the appropriate level. Includes material the students must know without spending a lot of time discussing topics that are "nice to know" but unnecessary for this level of student.

### 6. Are definitions, explanations and illustrations clear?

Clear. When procedures are involved, they are listed in easy-to-read manner. There are many procedures listed throughout the book, and they are made easier to grasp because they are attractively presented.

### 7. Is the content accurate?

Accurate

### 8. Are there numerous typographical or grammatical errors that reduce student clarity?

The book seems to be grammatically correct and does not seem to contain a large number of typographical errors.

### 9. Are objectives presented and followed?

Objectives of the text are not specifically listed; however, the preface indicates that it is primarily written for the advanced EMT student.

10. **Are chapter objectives logical, reasonable, and properly sequential?**  
No chapter objectives are listed, but the topics generally cover material advanced students would need to know about the topic. The text claims to cover the first 6 modules of the DOT lesson plans.
11. **Is the approach of this book different than other EMS books available?**  
When compared to the Caroline text which is also aimed specifically at paramedic students, the Huszar text follows a different order of presentation of module material. There seems to be no material on Role & Responsibilities of the Paramedic nor anything on Legal Aspects of emergency care. There is good coverage of anatomy and physiology of the respiratory and cardiovascular systems. Patient assessment is at the end of the book rather than in chapter 2 (Caroline). I believe this arrangement is an improvement because the student can hardly make accurate patient assessments until he has studied the material the textbook is presenting.
12. **Are there additions or deletions needed?**  
Arrhythmia recognition section should be expanded to include some practice strips. The material presented on how to recognize the various arrhythmias is good, but students must have practice material to reinforce the knowledge they have gained from the textbook.
13. **Generally, what is/are the book's strongest point(s)?**  
The strongest point about the book is that it seems to present material specifically related to the level of training advanced EMTs are supposed to be receiving.
14. **Generally, what is/are the book's weakest point(s)?**  
The weakest point is that it does not list objectives to be covered by the text. Any instructor who wanted to use only one book for a text would need to supplement this text with other material to cover the objectives for a special skills class or a paramedic class. The arrhythmia recognition section and medication administration section would be unused by special skills students. The text covers a lot more than its title indicates.
15. **What other comments do you have?**  
I was very favorably impressed with the book. I am currently using parts of it as supplemental material for special skills and Paramedic classes. After reviewing the book, I believe I will rely even more heavily on it in the future. The previous edition of the book had a slide set to accompany it. I presume the new edition will also eventually have slides/audiotapes. Procedures listed include basic life support as well as advanced life support. It follows American Heart Association standards for BLS and ACLS but does not include as many cardiac drugs as the new ACLS uses.

## EMS BOOK REVIEW

### 1. General Information:

- a. Title: Emergency Drug Manual
- b. Author: Dennis Ming, Elain Serra
- c. Publishing Company: Reston Publishing Company
- d. Copyright: 1980
- e. Cost: Unknown
- f. Title of supplemental manuals or workbooks: None
- g. Name of EMS Book Reviewer: Rick Murray
- h. EMS Position of EMS Book Reviewer: Field Supervisor, PHR 5
- i. Submitted to EMS Book Review Committee Membership: Eric Kunish
- j. Date: October 12, 1982
- k. Pages: 131 pages

### 2. What training level(s) does this book apply?

EMT-Special Skills and Paramedic

### 3. Can this book be used as a complete text or as a supplement?

Supplemental

### 4. Is the writing style likeable and consistent?

Yes. This text is very easy to read.

### 5. Is the level of presentation of material commensurate with the average student's capabilities?

Yes. The level of presentation should be easily understandable by the average student.

### 6. Are definitions, explanations, and illustrations clear?

Yes

### 7. Is the content accurate?

Yes

### 8. Are there numerous typographical or grammatical errors that reduce student clarity?

No. I did not find any.

### 9. Are objectives presented and followed?

Since this text is not designed as a primary teaching text, it doesn't use learning objectives.

### 10. Are chapter objectives logical, reasonable and properly sequential?

See #9.

### 11. Is the approach of this book different than other EMS books available?

No. There are several other drug books available.

**12. Are there additions or deletions needed?**

Yes. There are several drugs used in this area that are not included in this book: i.e., Bretylium, Levophed, and Verapamil.

**13. Generally, what is/are the book's strongest point(s)?**

The review of the effect of various fluids (D5W, R.L., M.S.) in field loss injuries, the list of commonly used medications found in the home.

**14. Generally, what is/are the book's weakest point(s)?**

With the exception of the omitted drugs, I could find no real weak points.

**15. What other comments do you have?**

I found the text to be an excellent supplement on Module IV.

## EMS BOOK REVIEW

### 1. General Information:

- a. Title: Manual of Emergency Pediatrics
- b. Author: Edited by Robert M. Reece, M.D.
- c. Publishing Company: Saunders Publishing Company
- d. Copyright: 1978
- e. Cost: Unknown
- f. Title of supplemental manuals or workbooks: None
- g. Name of EMS Book Reviewer: Andrew Cargile, EMT-P
- h. EMS Position of EMS Book Reviewer: EMS Field Consultant, PHR 4
- i. Submitted to EMS Book Review Committee Membership:
- j. Date: October 1, 1982
- k. Pages: 721

### 2. What training level(s) does this book apply?

EMT-Special Skills and Paramedic

### 3. Can this book be used as a complete text or as a supplement?

Supplemental

### 4. Is the writing style likeable and consistent?

This book is a series of articles written by physicians. On the whole, these articles are well written and informative. They give a general overview of most pediatric medical problems.

The structure of the book is excellent. Part 1 is true emergencies. These emergencies are listed in alphabetical order to aid in quickly identifying the desired articles. Part 2, 3, and 4 are areas that will not be of much use to training of emergency personnel but are otherwise quite informative.

I would suggest that this book is primarily for referral purposes only. I do not believe that it meets the needs of emergency medical training. It does shed some insight into the special problems that arise in pediatric emergencies. For that alone, I feel that this book would be useful in medical libraries.