

## Book Reviews

### **Handbook of Venous Disorders - Guidelines of the American Venous Forum**

P. Gloviczki and J. S. T. Yao, eds.

London: Chapman & Hall Medical, 1996.

686 pages, price £45.

This book will be welcomed by "aficionados" as well as health personnel with a professional interest in phlebology. It offers practical current guidelines for the evaluation and management of patients with venous disorders. In addition, aspects of lymphoedema are reviewed in three chapters. Due to skilful editing, it is truly "a handbook" where relevant clinical topics are easily found in clearly written chapters. The quality of information is guaranteed by the fact that the authors are almost all leaders and founding members of The American Venous Forum. Although a total of 59 authors have contributed, undue overlap of topics has been avoided. Most of the contributors have managed to discriminate between proven facts and practical conclusions of value for the clinician.

The design of this manual is traditional, starting with basic anatomy, pathophysiology and clinical examination. Recently acquired knowledge on the natural history and the macro- and micro-circulatory changes in chronic venous insufficiency is presented subsequently. Throughout this handbook areas of incomplete knowledge and relevant future research are pointed out. In the chapter on pathogenesis of deep venous thrombosis, Virchow's triad is revisited, which gives "much food for thought". Stasis and vessel wall injury alone are ineffective in causing thrombosis. Research on low shear rates near the apex of the valve cusps and local fibrinolytic activity in valvular endothelium may add new dimensions to our view on the pathogenesis of deep venous thrombosis. The central role of duplex scanning in the investigation of venous insufficiency and thrombosis is emphasised. The use of other techniques, e.g. plethysmographic modalities, direct ambulatory pres-

sure measurements, phlebography, computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging, is systematically covered.

Modern surgical treatment of varicose veins, limited to retrograde stripping of the incompetent, often proximal, part of the saphenous vein combined with stab avulsions is described; an inspiration for surgeons not yet practising this technique. In three chapters it is pointed out that sclerotherapy still has a well defined role in the treatment of varicose veins and teleangiectasias if the appropriate technique is used. In the chapter on "Nonoperative management of chronic venous insufficiency of the lower extremities", it is postulated that results of new pharmacological systemic and topical treatments of venous ulceration are promising. This opinion seems more optimistic than convincing. On the other hand, new knowledge may have practical consequences for management, e.g. strategies based on inactivation of preteolytic enzymes entrapped by white cells, which presumably play a pathogenetic role.

Two chapters deal with the results of venous valve reconstruction and venous bypass surgery, which are covered in a balanced way, again because the authors share their personal experience. A discussion about reporting standards and classification of venous disease in the lower limb are appropriate in a handbook like this and is extensively valuable. There have been several proposals for reporting and classification, all well founded and formulated. Why do still few authors adhere to these? Probably they are too detailed and comprehensive. To find "the middle way" is a challenge.

The layout, clear printing and appropriate text volume per page of this hard cover edition makes for pleasant reading and rapid location of topics. The number of pages per chapter varies between 8 and 32. Why was the subject "Tumors of the vena cava" allotted 32 pages whereas the average length of the chapters is 16? I mention this because there are few other irregularities in this book. Figures, tables and illustrations are in black and white and not so

elaborate as in some major textbooks, but quite satisfactory for a handbook meant for practical use in the clinical situation. The references are up to date and adequate in number. It would be hard to find a better practical handbook of phlebology for the price.

**Andries Kroese**  
*Oslo, Norway*

### **Surgery of the Carotid and Vertebral Arteries**

A. D. Callow, ed.

Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins, 1996.

434 pages, price £135.

This monograph has been produced by one of the most famous vascular surgeons, Allan D. Callow.

It is a well bound book with clear printing and excellent pictorial reproductions organised into seven chapters: basic considerations, pathogenesis and mechanisms of cerebrovascular diseases, stroke, treatment options, carotid surgery, vertebral artery lesions and patient selection. All chapters are well written and referenced.

Although a majority of the information contained within the book is already well known by the vascular surgical community, this book has the merit of synthesising this information into a very readable format. The strength of the book is that throughout all the chapters the reader is aware of the huge experience of the author. I particularly appreciate the chapters on medical management which are unusual in a surgical book. This aspect is of prime importance for vascular surgeons who are often responsible for the entire management of the patient.

Operative techniques and their complications are well described. The authors results are mentioned and compared to other major series in this field. Recent developments in endovascular treatment are covered in a short chapter including an up to date literature review. The reserve of Dr. Callow in advocating the endovascular approach is sensible in view of the lack of any proven advantage for these techniques.

This monograph is an ideal source of information for both vascular surgeons in training and those in established practice. I enjoyed reading this book which has established a place in my office.

**Patrice Bergeron**  
*Marseille, France*

Click here for medical books free download for those members with blocked download links. Handbook of Venous and Lymphatic Disorders: Guidelines of the American Venous Forum, Fourth Edition. Infectious Diseases. Apr 032017. Get IT free here. <http://nitroflare.com/view/75C2E8DEA47AF62/149872440X.pdf>. Posted by webmaster at 2:33 pm. Sorry, the comment form is closed at this time. Handbook of Venous Disorders - Guidelines of the American Venous Forum P. Gloviczki and J. S. T. Yao, eds. London: Chapman & Hall Medical, 1996. 686 pages, price 45. This book will be welcomed by "aficionados" as well as health personnel with a professional interest in phlebology. It offers practical current guidelines for the evaluation and management of patients with venous disorders. In addition, aspects of lymphoedema are reviewed in three chapters. Due to skilful editing, it is truly "a handbook" where relevant clinical topics are easily found in clearly written

