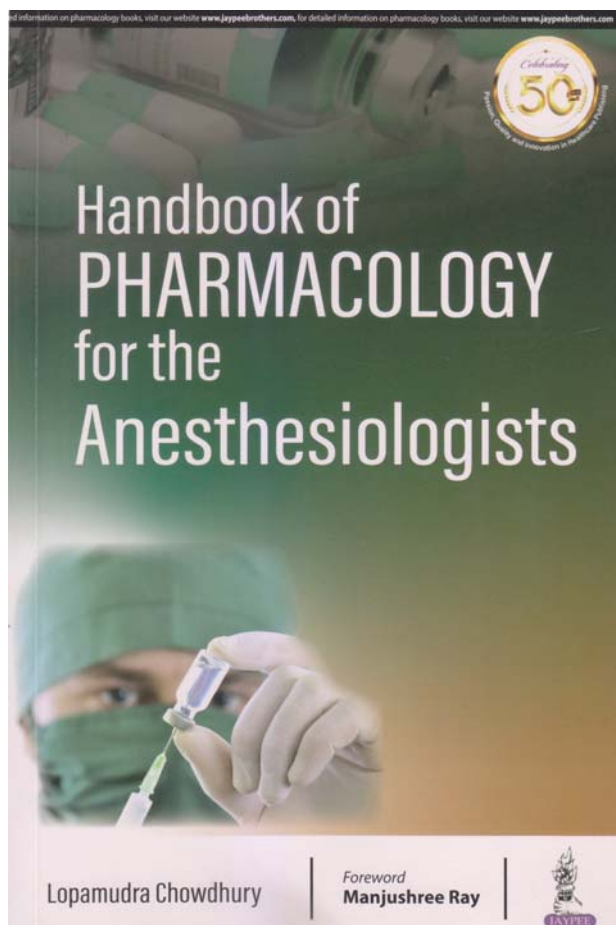


Book Review



“Handbook of Pharmacology for the Anesthesiologists” by Lopamudra Chowdhury, 1st Edition, 2019, Published by Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers Pvt Ltd, 4838/24, Ansari Rd, Daryaganj, New Delhi 110002, pp 1-247. 24cmx16cm, Rs550.00.

THIS handbook of pharmacology appears unparalleled! Anesthesiologist, the perioperative physician and the advocate for the patient in the surgical arena, has to play an important role to maintain the vital parameters within range. For this, the anesthesiologists have to exercise their in-depth knowledge in the perioperative period to optimize patient's condition by continuation, adjustment or even discontinuation of existing drug therapy. Altogether, the anesthesiologist has to make Jugglery with drugs. That being said, the anesthesiologist must have proper knowledge on pharmacology and it has to be acquired and

to be updated while busy with the work schedule.

The book is written by Dr. Lopamudra Chowdhury and published by Jaypee Brothers. Dr. Chowdhury MBBS, DA, MD (Pharmacology) has 14 years of experience in anesthesiology. Being a faculty in pharmacology, she felt the urge to amalgamate her experience in anesthesiology with the knowledge of pharmacology and thus ultimately succeeded to crystalize that knowledge and experience into this book, a piece of diamond!

The book contains 21 chapters in 247 pages. This handbook provides many practical titbits and pearls of information. It also provides comparative pharmacology on commonly used drugs such as induction agents, muscle relaxants, anticholinesterases, analgesics and many others. Almost every chapter has been provided with the comparative pharmacology. This comparative tabular description of different drugs of a particular category is immensely helpful for Post Graduate Trainees to have a glimpse on important facts to face the viva-voce examination. The book provides a detailed coverage on various cardiovascular drugs, taking the Lion's share with 35 pages, which makes it quite attractive for the trainees and practicing anesthesiologists. The book presents some difficult concepts such as nicotinic acetylcholine receptor, neuromuscular block monitoring etc. in a lucid manner with the help of schematic diagrams. Two chapters demand special mention- namely, chapter 20 on 'Drug therapy in special cases' and chapter 21 on 'Management of emergency situations' both of which contain many favorite topics for practical examination. Besides, this will help the practicing anesthesiologists to sail through day-to-day clinical scenarios. These chapters may further be expanded with some topics of drug overdose or poisoning. Some difficult topics such as antiarrhythmics, anticoagulants-fibrinolytics etc which are considered as 'hard nut to crack' and agenda of nightmares for the Post Graduate trainees, have been cracked effectively. This will provide much comfort to the students. There is a future scope to add another chapter on intravenous fluids which are also considered as drugs needing special prescription.

Last but not the least, this book is fully packed with relevant practical information. Its way of presentation is smooth and lucid. It is a ready reckoner. Thus, it would be quite helpful for the anesthesiologists and residents during their day-to-day practices.

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