

# BOOKS AND MULTIMEDIA OF INTEREST



***Radiographic Imaging for Regional Anesthesia and Pain Management***, by P. Prithvi Raj, MD; Leland Lou, MD; Serdar Erdine, MD; Peter S. Staats, MD. 352 pages, 373 illustrations, 42 procedures, \$79.95. New York, NY: Churchill Livingstone, 2003. ISBN: 0-443-06596-9.

*Radiographic Imaging for Regional Anesthesia and Pain Management* strikes an excellent balance between brevity (it is only about an inch thick) and completeness. Overall it is an excellent book. Descriptions of procedures are complete and concise. Anatomical drawings are of high quality, custom drawn to the procedure being taught, and contain helpful and highly specific information. Radiographic imaging figures are plentiful and of very good quality, especially in regard to needle placement and contrast spread. The text appears to be complete and up to date in regard to current specialized interventional pain procedures.

The text is clearly written for the physician interventional pain specialist. There are, however, at least 2

groups of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) who will be interested in this book: (1) those heavily involved in regional anesthesia who desire a more detailed and precise anatomical foundation for a variety of blocks and (2) those few CRNAs who are directly involved in interventional pain management. The book should also make a good reference text for anesthesia educators.

Consistent with its implied purpose, to be a concise but complete reference for interventional regional anesthesia, the text begins with chapters on the physics of radiography, equipment, safety, and the pharmacology of contrast and neurolytic agents. Only then does it delve into specific procedures. Each procedure is well documented with text, schematic diagrams, and radiographs. Procedures generally include the following sections: History, Anatomy, Indications, Contraindications, Equipment, Drugs, Preparation of the Patient, Procedure, Complications, Helpful Hints, and Efficacy.

While the copious radiographic figures and schematic diagrams showing needle entry points, direction, depth, orientation, and target areas are quite good, they may well be tedious to accurately interpret for the CRNA unaccustomed to viewing 2-dimensional images of 3-dimensional anatomy from odd angles. Prior practice interpreting C-arm radiographic images would greatly enhance one's experience with this book. The only frank disappointment in this text is the conspicuous absence of coverage of the interscalene approach to the brachial plexus.

*Radiographic Imaging for Regional Anesthesia and Pain Management* is a fine book that, although it will probably have a limited audience amongst CRNAs, is sure to please those who can put it to use.

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## Notice from the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs

In addition to the nurse anesthesia educational programs listed in the February 2004 *AANA Journal* to undergo an on-site accreditation visit during the fiscal year of September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005, the following program will be reviewed.

**Name of Program**  
Texas Wesleyan University  
Graduate Program of Nurse Anesthesia  
Fort Worth, Texas

**Projected date of on-site review**  
April 2005