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0521828007 - Medical Management of the Surgical Patient: A Textbook of Perioperative Medicine, Fourth Edition

Edited by Michael F. Lubin, Robert B. Smith III, Thomas F. Dodson, Nathan O. Spell and H. Kenneth Walker

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Medical Management of the Surgical Patient

This comprehensive textbook, now fully revised, rewritten and updated in its fourth edition, provides an authoritative account of all aspects of perioperative care for surgical patients. All areas of medical disease are discussed with clear recommendations for work up and management in the perioperative period. Basic discussion of surgical procedures are included to help non-surgeons understand the procedures and their implications for patient care. This definitive account includes numerous contributions from leading experts at national centers of medical excellence. It will serve as a significant work of reference for internists, anesthesiologists and surgeons.

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Frontmatter

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A Textbook of Perioperative Medicine

Fourth Edition

Edited by

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[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

Editor biographies	<i>page</i> xi
List of contributors	xiii
Preface	xxv
Introduction	1
Part I Medical management	
1 Anesthesia management of the surgical patient	7
L. Reuven Pasternak	
2 Nutrition	21
Joseph D. Ansley	
3 Preoperative testing	32
Nomi L. Traub	
4 Chronic medications around the time of surgery	40
Nathan O. Spell, III	
5 Ethical considerations in the surgical patient	47
Carl C. Hug, Jr. and Kathleen Kinlaw	
Cardiology	63
6 Cardiovascular disease	65
General overview	65
Arrhythmias and conduction abnormalities	79
Valvular heart disease	91
Howard Weitz	
7 Postoperative chest pain and shortness of breath	102
Geno J. Merli and Michael F. Lubin	
Hypertension	107
8 Perioperative management of hypertension	109
Craig R. Keenan	

	Pulmonary	125	22	Medical care of the HIV-infected surgical patient	307
9	Perioperative pulmonary risk evaluation and management for non-cardiothoracic surgery	127		Jeffrey L. Lennox	
	Michelle V. Conde, Ahsan M. Arozullah, and Valerie A. Lawrence		23	Fever and infection in the postoperative setting	317
				James P. Steinberg and Shanta M. Zimmer	
10	Acute lung injury (ALI) and the acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)	142		Renal disease	327
	Scott L. Schissel and Bruce D. Levy		24	Surgery in the patient with renal disease	329
11	Postoperative pulmonary complications	158		Jane Y. Yeun and Burl R. Don	
	Eric G. Honig		25	Postoperative electrolyte disorders	353
				Juliet K. Mavromatis	
	Gastroenterology	179		Endocrinology	361
12	Peptic ulcer disease	181	26	Diabetes mellitus	363
	John Affronti and Tommie Haywood			Pamela T. Prescott	
13	Liver disease	186	27	Disorders of the thyroid	367
	Enrique J. Martinez			Pamela T. Prescott	
14	Inflammatory bowel disease	193	28	Disorders of the adrenal cortex	374
	Brennan A. Scott and Lorenzo Rossaro			Pamela T. Prescott	
15	Postoperative gastrointestinal complications	199	29	Disorders of calcium metabolism	379
	Brian W. Behm and Neil Stollman			Pamela T. Prescott	
	Hematology	207	30	Pheochromocytoma	383
16	Disorders of red cells	209		Pamela T. Prescott	
	James R. Eckman			Rheumatology	387
17	Assessment of bleeding risk in the patient with no history of hemostatic problems	219	31	Rheumatologic diseases	389
	Eve Rodler and Ted Wun			Joe T. Kelley, III and Doyt L. Conn	
18	Surgical issues affecting patients with hemotologic malignancies	230		Neurology	399
	Eve Rodler and Ted Wun		32	Cerebrovascular disease	401
19	Prophylaxis for deep venous thrombosis and pulmonary embolism in surgery	248		Michael R. Frankel and Duncan Borland	
	Geno J. Merli		33	Management of the surgical patient with dementia	411
20	Blood transfusion/preoperative considerations and complications	269		Madhav Thambisetty, James J. Lah, and Allan I. Levey	
	Cassandra D. Josephson, Krista L. Hillyer, and Christopher D. Hillyer		34	Neuromuscular disorders	423
				Jaffar Khan	
	Infectious disease	285	35	Perioperative management of patients with Parkinson's disease	430
21	Prevention of surgical site infections	287		Jorge L. Juncos	
	Hien H. Nguyen and Stuart H. Cohen		36	Delirium in the surgical patient	439
				Neil H. Winawer	

Cambridge University Press

0521828007 - Medical Management of the Surgical Patient: A Textbook of Perioperative Medicine, Fourth Edition

Edited by Michael F. Lubin, Robert B. Smith III, Thomas F. Dodson, Nathan O. Spell and H. Kenneth Walker

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Surgery in the elderly	445	51	Anal operations	541
37 Surgery in the elderly	447		David V. Feliciano	
Michael F. Lubin		52	Cholecystectomy	543
			David V. Feliciano	
Obesity	465	53	Common bile duct exploration	545
38 Obesity	467		David V. Feliciano	
John G. Kral		54	Major hepatic resection	548
			David V. Feliciano	
Psychiatric disorders	479	55	Splenectomy	550
39 Depression	481		David V. Feliciano	
Anxiety and somatoform disorders	487	56	Pancreatoduodenal resection	552
Psychological and emotional reactions			David V. Feliciano	
to illness and surgery	490	57	Adrenal surgery	555
Edward R. Norris and Charles L. Raison			David V. Feliciano	
40 Substance abuse	493	58	Lysis of adhesions	557
Ted Parran, Jr.			David V. Feliciano	
		59	Ventral hernia repair	559
Peripartum patients	503		David V. Feliciano	
41 Care of the peripartum patient	505	60	Inguinal hernia repair	561
Clyde Watkins			David V. Feliciano	
		61	Laparotomy in patients with human	
Part II Surgical procedures and their complications			immunodeficiency virus infection	563
			David V. Feliciano	
General surgery	515	62	Abdominal trauma	565
42 Tracheostomy	517		David V. Feliciano	
David V. Feliciano				
43 Thyroidectomy	520		Cardiothoracic surgery	569
David V. Feliciano		63	Coronary artery bypass procedures	571
44 Parathyroidectomy	522		Vinod H. Hourani and John D. Puskas	
David V. Feliciano		64	Cardiac rhythm management	579
45 Lumpectomy and mastectomy	525		Omar M. Lattouf	
David V. Feliciano		65	Aortic valve surgery	582
46 Gastric procedures (including laparoscopic			Jason M. Budde and William A. Cooper	
antireflux, gastric bypass, and gastric	527	66	Mitral valve surgery	585
banding)			Jason M. Budde and William A. Cooper	
David V. Feliciano		67	Ventricular assist devices and cardiac	
47 Small bowel resection	531		transplantation	589
David V. Feliciano			V. Seenu Reddy and J. David Vega	
48 Appendectomy	533	68	Pericardiectomy	592
David V. Feliciano			Joseph I. Miller, Jr.	
49 Colon resection	535	69	Pulmonary lobectomy	594
David V. Feliciano			Joseph I. Miller, Jr.	
50 Abdominoperineal resection	538			
David V. Feliciano				

Cambridge University Press

0521828007 - Medical Management of the Surgical Patient: A Textbook of Perioperative Medicine, Fourth Edition

Edited by Michael F. Lubin, Robert B. Smith III, Thomas F. Dodson, Nathan O. Spell and H. Kenneth Walker

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

Contents

70	Pneumonectomy Joseph I. Miller, Jr.	596	88	Skin grafting for burns Gary A. Tuma and T. Roderick Hester	649
71	Hiatal hernia repair Kamal A. Mansour and Daniel L. Serna	598	Gynecologic surgery		651
72	Esophagogastrectomy Kamal A. Mansour and Daniel L. Serna	600	89	Abdominal hysterectomy Hugh W. Randall	653
73	Colon interposition for esophageal bypass Kamal A. Mansour and Daniel L. Serna	602	90	Vaginal hysterectomy Hugh W. Randall	655
Vascular surgery		605	91	Uterine curettage Hugh W. Randall	658
74	Carotid endarterectomy Sunil S. Rayan and Thomas F. Dodson	607	92	Radical hysterectomy Jack Basil	660
75	Abdominal aortic aneurysm repair Sunil S. Rayan and Thomas F. Dodson	610	93	Vulvectomy Ira R. Horowitz	663
76	Aortobifemoral bypass grafting Victor J. Weiss	615	Neurologic surgery		667
77	Femoropopliteal bypass grafting Victor J. Weiss	618	94	Craniotomy for brain tumor Jeffrey J. Olson	669
78	Lower extremity embolectomy Sunil S. Rayan and Thomas F. Dodson	620	95	Intracranial aneurysm surgery Y. Jonathan Zhang, C. Michael Cawley, and Daniel L. Barrow	674
79	Treatment of chronic mesenteric ischemia Karthikeshwar Kasirajan and Elliot L. Chaikof	623	96	Evacuation of subdural hematomas Praveen V. Mummaneni, Franklin J. Lin, and Valli P. Mummaneni	678
80	Inferior vena cava filters Sunil S. Rayan and Thomas F. Dodson	627	97	Stereotactic procedures Michele M. Johnson and Robert E. Gross	682
81	Portal shunting procedures Tarek A. Salam and Atef A. Salam	629	98	Transsphenoidal surgery Nelson M. Oyesiku	685
Plastic and reconstructive surgery		633	99	Treatment of herniated disk Maxwell Boakye and Regis W. Haid, Jr.	688
82	Breast reconstruction after mastectomy Alfredo A. Paredes, Jr. and T. Roderick Hester	635	Ophthalmic surgery		693
83	Facial rejuvenation Steve Szczerba and T. Roderick Hester	638	100	General considerations in ophthalmic surgery Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, G. Baker Hubbard, III, and Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr.	695
84	Liposuction Ashley D. Gordon and T. Roderick Hester, Jr.	641	101	Cataract surgery G. Baker Hubbard, III, Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, and Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr.	698
85	Repair of facial fractures Hisham Seify and T. Roderick Hester	643	102	Corneal transplantation C. Diane Song, Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, G. Baker Hubbard, III, and Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr.	700
86	Flap coverage for pressure sores Dustin L. Reid and T. Roderick Hester	645			
87	Muscle flap coverage of sternal wound infections Joshua A. Greenwald and T. Roderick Hester, Jr.	647			

Cambridge University Press

0521828007 - Medical Management of the Surgical Patient: A Textbook of Perioperative Medicine, Fourth Edition

Edited by Michael F. Lubin, Robert B. Smith III, Thomas F. Dodson, Nathan O. Spell and H. Kenneth Walker

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

103	Vitreoretinal surgery G. Baker Hubbard, III, Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, and Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr.	702	119	Myringotomy and tubes Douglas E. Mattox	751
104	Glaucoma surgery Anastasios P. Costarides, G. Baker Hubbard, III, Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, and Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr.	704	120	Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy John M. DelGaudio	753
105	Refractive surgery C. Diane Song, Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, G. Baker Hubbard, III, and Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr.	706	121	Uvulopalatopharyngoplasty John M. DelGaudio	755
106	Eye muscle surgery Amy K. Hutchinson, G. Baker Hubbard, III, Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, and Thomas A. Aaberg, Sr.	708	122	Endoscopic sinus surgery Giri Venkatraman	757
107	Enucleation, evisceration and exenteration Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, G. Baker Hubbard, III, and Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr.	710	123	Cleft palate surgery Charles E. Moore	759
	Orthopedic surgery	713	124	Facial surgery Seth A. Yellin	761
108	Arthroscopic knee surgery Alonzo T. Sexton, II and John W. Xerogeanes	715	125	Tracheotomy William J. Grist	764
109	Total knee replacement Mark Hanna and James Roberson	719	126	Surgical management of head and neck cancer Amy Y. Chen	767
110	Total hip replacement Mark Hanna and James Roberson	722	127	Anterior cranial base surgery Charles E. Moore	770
111	Fractures of the femoral shaft Lisa K. Cannada and Robert M. Harris	725	128	Surgery for syndromic craniosynostosis Charles E. Moore	772
112	Surgery for hip fractures Brett S. Sanders and Lisa K. Cannada	728		Urologic surgery	775
113	Lumbar spine surgery Andrew E. Park and John G. Heller	731	129	Nephrectomy John G. Pattaras	777
114	Surgery for scoliosis or kyphosis in adults William C. Horton and John M. Rhee	735	130	Cystectomy and urinary diversion Peter T. Nieh	780
115	Surgery of the foot and ankle Sameh A. Labib	739	131	Radical prostatectomy Fray F. Marshall	785
116	Lower extremity amputations Alonzo T. Sexton and Lamar L. Fleming	741	132	Transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP) Muta M. Issa and Dwayne Thwaites	787
117	Surgical procedures for rheumatoid arthritis Gary R. McGillivray	744	133	Interstitial laser thermal therapy for benign prostatic hyperplasia Muta M. Issa and Rafael Bouet-Blasini	791
	Otolaryngologic surgery	747	134	Management of upper urinary tract calculi John G. Pattaras	793
118	Otologic surgery Douglas E. Mattox	749	135	Female urinary incontinence surgery Niall T. M. Galloway	796
				Index	799

Cambridge University Press

0521828007 - Medical Management of the Surgical Patient: A Textbook of Perioperative Medicine, Fourth Edition

Edited by Michael F. Lubin, Robert B. Smith III, Thomas F. Dodson, Nathan O. Spell and H. Kenneth Walker

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Edited by Michael F. Lubin, Robert B. Smith III, Thomas F. Dodson, Nathan O. Spell and H. Kenneth Walker

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xiv

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xvi

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Frontmatter

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xviii

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Frontmatter

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xx

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

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xxii

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Preface

As “they” say, time flies. It has been over 25 years since we began work on the first edition of *Medical Management of the Surgical Patient*. It is hard to believe that so much time has passed and that there have been so many changes in the practice of medicine. In 1977, coronary bypass surgery was just beginning to be a common procedure, angioplasty was in its infancy and there was no such thing as endoscopic surgery. No one had any idea that AIDS was about to enter the scene. If anyone has said that peptic ulcer disease was an infectious disease, he would have been laughed at and no one was talking about the morals and ethics of medical care. Things have changed!

It seems to us that there is something special about a fourth edition. Getting a first or second edition done isn't easy, but not unusual. A third edition is a “tipping point,” it means that the book is of some real use. A fourth edition affirms a book as a standard.

And we certainly hope that is the case. We have gathered in this volume a large group of experts in perioperative care. There are two nationally known conferences in perioperative medicine: Thomas Jefferson and University of California, Davis. Many of our authors are experts from those institutions. Those of us at Emory have been working on these problems since 1977. We have also asked physicians at other institutions to help us on topics where their expertise was demonstrated.

Virtually every chapter has been entirely rewritten. We have again tried to make *Medical Management of the Surgical Patient* a usable, well-documented reference book; there are other excellent handbooks. As in previous additions, we have added new chapters to fill in some gaps.