

Respiratory Care

Principles and Practice

Second Edition

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Preface

Ten years is a long time. A lot can happen in 10 years. In the 10 years since the publication of the *First Edition* of this book, the New England Patriots won the Super Bowl 3 times, the Boston Red Sox won the World Series twice, and the Boston Celtics won an NBA championship once. Some might have thought that impossible, just as some might have thought a second edition of this book impossible. But we are back, better than ever, in champion form, with the *Second Edition of Respiratory Care: Principles and Practice*.

As you will see, the *Second Edition* is completely reorganized. Patient assessment has been moved to the beginning of the book, which recognizes the important role of patient assessment in everyday respiratory care practice. This is followed by respiratory therapeutics, respiratory diseases, applied sciences, and, finally, the professional aspects of respiratory care. Many topics important to contemporary practice have been added. These include geriatrics, patient safety, disaster management, home care, and expanded coverage of neonatal/pediatrics. Nearly all of the art has been updated or replaced in this edition. Full color photographs and illustrations are used to embellish the text. Many new authors have been added to breathe new life into the material, more than half of whom are practicing respiratory therapists. Because the book has been so thoroughly rewritten and reworked, it appears more like a third or fourth edition than a second edition.

All of the successful pedagogical features of the *First Edition* have been retained for this edition. These features include the use of the clinical practice guidelines of the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC), glossary terms, key points, and respiratory recaps. In addition to the text itself, online features are available to support students and faculty. For students, there are chapter quizzes, case studies, and additional interactive activities. For faculty, we provide PowerPoint presentations, an ImageBank, a TestBank, and more. A companion website is available for this text at <http://go.jblearning.com/respiratorycare>.

The focus of the text is respiratory therapy practice in the 21st century. The modern respiratory therapist must be a technologist, physiologist, and clinician. The respiratory therapist of today is expected to be a clinical leader, which includes input into the development of multidisciplinary care plans and implementation of respiratory care protocols. Moreover, contemporary practice is evidence based. Each of these important aspects of modern respiratory care practice was carefully considered in the preparation of this book.

The primary audience of this book is respiratory therapy students. We have written this book for students, having considered the examination matrix of the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) to ensure that all of the topics on the board exams (and more) are included. In the online TestBank, questions are keyed to the examination matrix. But this is more than a book designed to assure success on the board exams. *Respiratory Care, Second Edition* includes many topics beyond the NBRC exam matrix that are intended to help students become well-rounded members of the patient care team.

We strived to make this text readable and the content within reach of students. We included boxes, tables, and illustrations to assist learning. We carefully edited the book for consistency in writing style throughout. However, we have not watered down the content. The material may be challenging at places, but the intent was not to make it difficult. Rather, it is written to help students maximize their contributions when interacting with physicians and other members of the healthcare team. An important aspect of professional interactions is the ability to use the language that others use at the bedside; whether a respiratory therapist, physician, or other healthcare professional, the language should always be the same.

Although this text is intended primarily for students, it will be useful for others as a reference book. For the respiratory therapist who graduated from school some time ago, this book should serve as a refresher and update. For those who are not respiratory therapists, the

content should provide insight into respiratory therapy practice and could serve as a reference text.

There are innumerable persons to be thanked for their contributions to the success of this project. First, I thank my co-editors. They embraced the vision and worked hard to make this book the best that it can be. Second, I thank all of the chapter authors who dealt with our prodding to complete their chapters to our expectations. Finally, I owe a mountain of gratitude to everyone at Jones & Bartlett Learning who poured their talents into

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It is my hope that the *Second Edition of Respiratory Care: Principles and Practice* will assist students as they master the art and science of respiratory care, that it contributes to an improvement in the stature of the respiratory care profession, and most importantly that it improves the care of patients with respiratory disorders.

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