Book Review

Dailey’s Notes on Blood

Dailey’s Notes on Blood
By John F. Dailey, BA
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One of the fundamental objectives that perfusionists and other medical personnel face is learning and understanding the physiology of blood and the circulatory system. Even the experienced perfusionist or medical health professional should have a concise, easy-to-understand book available for reference. Dailey’s Notes on Blood is a book that fulfills both criteria.

Dailey’s Notes on Blood was written by John F. Dailey, a perfusionist with 20 years’ experience. Dailey’s expertise includes a BA in biology and graduate studies in biochemistry and physiology. During his perfusion career he was responsible for the training of physicians and allied health personnel throughout the United States and Canada on the use of autologous blood recovery systems.

This book is written in a style that makes it an excellent primer text for the student. At the same time, it is comprehensive enough to be used by the experienced reader as a permanent reference text. It allows the reader to acquire the basic conceptual knowledge of blood physiology without requiring a complex background in chemistry.

Drafted with the medical educator and instructor in mind, this book presents the material in an easy-to-understand format that should make teaching and learning this complex subject easy. The use of “sidebar” notes throughout the text simplifies the understanding of the fundamental concepts required and makes it easy to locate key phrases or concepts for reference. At the end of each section there are questions with answers to allow the reader to assess his learning progress and review the material. The book covers many basic concepts such as “What is Blood?” “The Circulatory System,” “Car-diopulmonary Bypass” and the “Coagulation System.” In addition, complex subjects like immunoglobulins, humoral and cell-mediated responses, T cells and B cells, prostaglandins and the role of 2,3 DPG are also addressed.

There are 35 excellent diagrams supplementing the text, making many of the difficult concepts easier to understand. A complete glossary and appendix significantly enhance the value of this book for reference use.

This book should be required reading for perfusion students and is an excellent reference for medical students, perfusionists and all allied health personnel. It provides a solid foundation for further study of subjects like pathophysiology.

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