
The work facing the authors of a board review book is challenging indeed. The vast breadth of knowledge comprising the field of anesthesiology must be covered in adequate depth, while simultaneously avoiding getting bogged down in unnecessary minutiae. Moreover, many such books have already been published—some admirably succeeding in their mission to concisely review the field, others doing so less successfully. The latter tomes generally fail either because of being too superficial in their coverage, or because of presenting material in levels of detail more suitable for a textbook.

The authors of the first edition of Anesthesiology Keywords Review, published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, thus faced a difficult task: To successfully tread the line between conciseness and detail, while also...
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