
Book Review

PATHOPHYSIOLOGIC BASIS OF ACID-BASE DISORDERS

*By Farrokh Habibzadeh, MD,
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*Published by Navid Publication; PO Box: 71365-666,
Shiraz, Iran. Pages: 216 ISBN: 964-358-436-4.*

The monograph on PATHOPHYSIOLOGIC BASIS OF ACID-BASE DISORDERS by Farrokh Habibzadeh and Mahboobeh Yadollahie from Shiraz, Islamic Republic of Iran is a laudable accomplishment.

The first four chapters deal with the elementary concepts of acid-base related physical chemistry and respiratory physiology. These concepts are essential for understanding the basic mechanisms underlying acid-base disorders. Things to remember at the end of each chapter offer a good opportunity to test how good concepts have touched the cognition. However, an abridgement of the first four chapters might ease the switch over to the following chapters including cases of acid-base disorder. For the sake of brevity and integration, authors should consider to include chapter 8 after third one.

The chapter on the introduction to acid-base chemistry and ABGs is well organized as a template to understand the pathophysiology underlying the disorders. However, an allocation of a page or two on the principles of electrometric or optical measurement of blood gas parameters of the analyzer might be of added advantage. This may help in the interpretation of ABGs in context of source of errors and accuracy study of the blood gas analyzer.

The chapters 5 and 7 on the clinical cases of acid-base disorders are lucidly written. Associated changes in anion gap and electrolytes are well integrated to ease understanding the underlying mechanisms of disorders. Thus, this book may prove to be a good guide in PBL or CPBL curriculum especially during clerkship and residency when it comes to application of concepts in understanding a problem to derive a solution.

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