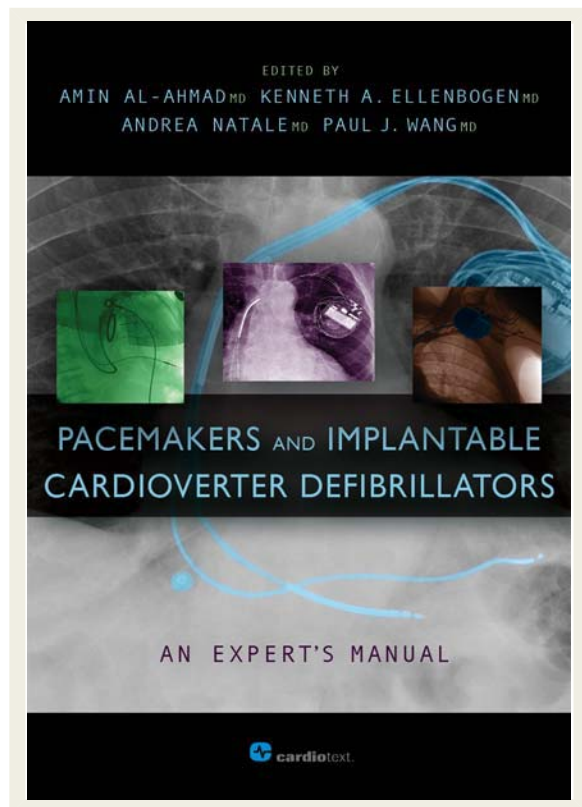


Book review

Pacemakers and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators: An Expert's Manual

Editors: A. Al-Ahmad, K.A. Ellenbogen, A. Natale, P.J. Wang
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Pacemakers and Defibrillators are used increasingly in the management of arrhythmias and a number of different cardiac conditions. Electrophysiologists, general cardiologists, implanting surgeons, intensive care physicians and general physicians are now closely involved in managing patients with these devices which have become increasingly complex and understanding their algorithms and growing programming options is essential for all physicians who insert and manage them. Whether troubleshooting a pacemaker tracing or assessing the cause of an inappropriate shock, a clear understanding of device function is crucial. The first edition of *Pacemaker and Implantable*

Cardioverter Defibrillators: An Expert's Manual is written by world-leading specialists in the field from North America, Europe and Asia, and offers all physicians and allied professionals a clear and comprehensive introduction to the principles and functions of these devices.

The clinically oriented coverage integrates the current information illustrated by over 300 figures and tables into a thorough and practical, user-friendly reference on all aspects of pacing and defibrillation therapy. *Pacemaker and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators* counts 464 pages and is clearly divided into three sections. The first section covers the classic fundamentals of pacemaker systems including the understanding of the pulse generator to timing cycles, which serves as a foundation for the other sections of the book. The second section on implantable cardioverter defibrillators offers chapters that discuss tachycardia detection and classification, and also device testing and therapy. The third section covers the topic of biventricular pacing systems. None of the chapters discuss the current indications for implantation of the different types of devices.

In contrast to other textbooks in this field, *Pacemaker and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators* emphasises in detail device algorithms and technical specifications on generators and leads. By addressing every major manufacturer it is a helpful reference companion in the daily needs of all direct management professionals. The chapters and the subchapters have clear headings, and most of them are well organized for important clinical impact. The textbook goes beyond the basics and discusses the manufacturer specific algorithms and programmability, presenting them in many useful tables with many details. Unfortunately, new fields in this rapidly evolving technology such as, remote monitoring of pacemakers and defibrillators, or implantation of subcutaneous leadless defibrillators are not addressed in this otherwise up-to-date textbook.

This textbook provides electrophysiologists, Fellows in training, nurses, and cardiovascular technicians involved in the daily care of device patients, with detailed information about the many device algorithms and interactions, and serves as a study-guide for certification examinations.

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