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Procedures, Techniques, and Minimally Invasive Monitoring in Intensive Care Medicine

4th edition. Richard S. Irwin, MD; James M. Rippe, MD, Alan Lisbon, MD; and Stephen O. Heard, MD; eds. 400 pages, \$64.95. Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins, 2007. ISBN: 978-0781778626.

As the title indicates, *Procedures, Techniques, and Minimally Invasive Monitoring in Intensive Care Medicine*, 4th edition, edited by the physicians Irwin, Rippe, Lisbon, and Heard, presents and discusses some of the most likely issues to confront a healthcare provider in the critical care setting. Multiple authors who are experts in their fields wrote the individual chapters. This text is the companion manual to *Irwin and Rippe's Intensive Care Medicine*, 6th edition.

This book is divided into 2 sections. Section 1 presents procedures and techniques. The content of the individual chapters varies relative to the complexity of the topic and the likelihood that a bedside intensive care clinician would perform the technique. For example, chapters explaining commonly performed bedside interventions such as blood gas analysis, placement of central venous catheters, and chest tubes typically include a step-by-step guide as well as indications, complications, and other important information. Chapters that address interventions that require additional training, such as dialysis or therapeutic apheresis, provide a general overview and familiarization rather than step-by-step procedural guidance. The second section is a discussion of minimally invasive monitoring focusing on

routine and system-specific monitoring techniques.

This text is intended for physicians, such as critical care interns and residents; but it could be a very useful reference for the bedside critical care nurse to provide background on indications and complications for various critical care interventions. It would also serve as a useful reference for allied healthcare providers such as radiological technicians, who may have frequent critical care exposure but limited understanding of various interventions. Overall, this text is a useful addition to any critical care library.

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