ogy of sarcoidosis. Current theories on the pathogenesis of sarcoidosis are summarized well, although an explicit discussion of the CD4/CD8 ratio and T-helper subsets would have made this more complete. The clinical presentation of sarcoidosis is comprehensively discussed. The radiographic manifestations are discussed in considerable detail, with most of the text hewing to a pattern-based approach. The section on interstitial pulmonary fibrosis has a comprehensive, current discussion on the various theories of its pathogenesis. The subsection on prognosis and natural history is nearly complete, save for information on the more recent developments, such as the CRP score.

The pathological appearance of interstitial pulmonary fibrosis is very well discussed and illustrated; the only addition that might improve this section would be explicit discussion of the pathology features that differentiate usual interstitial pneumonia from the other patterns seen in interstitial pulmonary fibrosis. Nonspecific interstitial pneumonitis, acute interstitial pneumonia, and desquamative interstitial pneumonitis/respiratory-bronchiolitis-associated interstitial lung disease are very well discussed and illustrated.

Overall, this is an excellent text. The chapters provide concise, comprehensive coverage of each topic. There is more detail than in many other pulmonary textbooks of similar size. However, therapeutics are not discussed, which makes this book difficult to characterize; it is both comprehensive and deficient. It is nearly complete in the areas the authors chose to address. The absence of information on treatment, however, means that an additional resource must be used by clinicians who manage pulmonary disease. From a clinician’s perspective, this would mean the expense of an additional book and a less integrated discussion on each topic. This textbook would probably be of the greatest value to the physician-in-training or respiratory therapist who is looking for a second book to expand his or her knowledge of the radiology and pathology of the diseases they encounter in daily practice.

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The 6th edition of Manual of Clinical Problems in Pulmonary Medicine is a thorough overview of pulmonary disease. It is comprehensive in scope and includes common as well as rare conditions. Its best use is as a quick, easy-to-read reference guide. It is not as dense or detailed as a textbook, so it would be a useful pocket manual and should appeal to a broad readership. General practitioners, medical students, nurses, and respiratory therapists would find this a useful reference.

This spiral-bound book is well organized and packed with information. It is divided into 11 sections and 108 chapters on specific pulmonary ailments. Most chapters are 3–7 pages. The book is densely written, conveying a large amount of information in a small space. Commonly encountered problems duly receive greater attention than rare phenomenon. The book is almost entirely devoted to adult disease. The editors divided a broad specialty into easily understandable subsets. The subject index makes referencing a specific entity easy and convenient.

The pulmonary specialist may find this book lacking in detail but should get good use from the extensive references provided, and most of the references are accompanied by useful one-sentence descriptions. The book is compact in size, with a small font. One limitation is the lack of illustrations and the limited use of tables. Some of the information, such as the criteria for a positive purified-protein-derivative tuberculosis test, could be more readily accessed in tabular format.

The subjects the editors selected are a logical division of a broad specialty. They include pulmonary and diagnostic techniques, special problems, pulmonary infection, airways disease, acute respiratory failure, cardiovascular and thromboembolic disease, congenital and pediatric disease, chest wall and neuromuscular disorders, environmental and occupational diseases, idiopathic/immunologic/granulomatous diseases, and neoplastic diseases. The book would be strengthened by some reorganization. For example, the first 2 sections cover peripheral aspects of pulmonary disease, whereas lung cancer is left to the very end.

However, since the text is a pocket reference, this is a small limitation. Although 57 different authors contributed, the text is concise, clear, and reads coherently.

Section I, on pulmonary diagnostic techniques, includes chapters on radiographic testing and procedures such as bronchoscopy, surgical lung biopsy, and mediastinoscopy. The useful chapter on preoperative pulmonary evaluation covers the importance of smoking-cessation prior to major surgery. Section II discusses special problems, and is the “miscellaneous” portion of the book. Here the reader will find chapters on plural disease, aspiration pneumonia, pregnancy, hyperbaric oxygen, tobacco-control, and bioterrorism, among others.

Each section provides an initial general overview and important detail on various conditions. Section III illustrates this, and I will review it in detail. It covers pulmonary infection and is the longest section in the book, with 24 different chapters. The first chapter is an overview of pneumonia; it explains mechanisms by which organisms enter the lung, and the organisms for which different patients are at risk. The distinction between community-acquired and hospital-acquired pneumonia is explained, and general guidelines to antibiotic selection are provided. The microbiologic and radiographic aspects of diagnosis are detailed. Finally, the importance of host immune status is discussed.

Section III then moves into individual chapters devoted to specific infections. The topics include bacterial, mycobacterial, viral, fungal, and parasitic causes of lung infection. Useful chapters on hospital-acquired pneumonia and human-immunodeficiency-virus-associated pulmonary infections are included. The chapter on hospital-acquired pneumonia provides a balanced discussion of this complicated issue, including the challenge of diagnosing ventilator-associated pneumonia. The coverage of tuberculosis is extensive, with chapters on latent disease, active disease, and treatment, all by the same author, so there is very little repetition among them. There is occasional redundancy elsewhere in this section; several authors devoted substantial space to pneumococcal pneumonia.

By the conclusion of Section III the reader has a thorough grasp of the spectrum of pulmonary infection. Treatment is generally covered in less detail than other aspects of specific disease entities. Epidemiology, clin-
ical presentation, laboratory/radiographic findings, and diagnosis are presented more thoroughly. The chapters would be strengthened by including some visual aids, such as a typical chest radiograph of community-acquired pneumonia.

The other sections adhere to the same template: an initial overview followed by detailed individual chapters. All the sections suffer similarly from the dearth of pictures, graphs, and tables.

Section IV discusses airways disease, with a justifiably heavy emphasis on asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Chapters are devoted to clinical presentation, diagnosis, management, and pharmacotherapy of asthma. The emphasis on patient education in the management chapter is especially worthwhile. There are also 3 chapters on chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, including a discussion of the differences between emphysema and chronic bronchitis, as well as pathophysiology and management. Other chapters discuss pulmonary rehabilitation and the sometimes overlooked bronchiectasis.

Section V is the only portion of the book devoted to critical care; it briefly reviews acute respiratory failure. Acute hypercapnic respiratory failure is discussed primarily from a pathophysiologic perspective, rather than as a specific disease entity. This complex topic is skillfully handled; the section includes a review of the physiology of alveolar ventilation and the alveolar-arterial oxygen difference. Also covered are the importance of relative hypercapnia and the issue of supplemental oxygen contributing to hypercapnic respiratory failure. The next chapter discusses the acute respiratory distress syndrome. The pathophysiology is discussed in detail, and appropriate space is devoted to management. The rationale for positive end-expiratory pressure and low tidal volume is emphasized. Brief chapters on airway management and mechanical ventilation are included, with a discussion of liberation from mechanical ventilation. Finally, oxygen therapy/toxicity and the use of respiratory-therapy protocols are reviewed.

Section VI reviews cardiovascular and thromboembolic disease. The first 3 chapters address venous thromboembolic disease, including epidemiology, diagnosis, natural history, prophylaxis, and treatment. Chronic thromboembolic disease and associated pulmonary hypertension receive a full chapter, as do unusual causes of embolisms, such as air, fat, and septic emboli. The chapter on pulmonary hypertension (both primary and secondary) includes a discussion of the newest available therapies, such as bosentan, sildenafil, and iloprost. This section concludes with a chapter on heart and lung transplantation, which includes an especially useful table that gives the referral guidelines for selected pulmonary diseases.

Sections VII and VIII are brief and cover congenital, chest wall, and neuromuscular problems. Sickle cell disease and cystic fibrosis are the only heritable diseases addressed. Chest wall, diaphragmatic, and neuromuscular disease are briefly discussed. Sleep apnea is reviewed in section VIII. This disorder should receive more thorough coverage, since it is probably underdiagnosed.

Sections IX and X cover environmental/occupational lung disease and immunologic/granulomatous disease, respectively. The importance of exposure history is nicely emphasized with regards to occupational lung disease. A useful table provides specific questions to address with patients when occupational lung disease is under consideration. Another useful chapter in this section discusses the medicolegal aspects of disability evaluation. The chapter on occupational asthma would benefit from discussion of specific causes, such as latex. The section on immunologic/granulomatous diseases is extensive and includes a review of sarcoid, idiopathic interstitial pneumonia, and lupus, among others. The amount of detail is somewhat excessive, particularly given the rarity of several of the conditions, such as pulmonary alveolar proteinosis.

The text concludes with a section on neoplastic disease. This section includes the expected chapters on epidemiology, staging, treatment, and prognosis. It also includes a good discussion of more controversial topics, such as lung-cancer screening. Also provided is a chapter on the vexing solitary pulmonary nodule. Finally, there is a section on less common malignancies of the chest, such as carcinoids, mediastinal malignancies, and pleural tumors.

In summary, this book provides a comprehensive reference guide for the practicing clinician. It is up to date and easy to read. It gives ample detail on virtually every topic in pulmonary medicine, yet does not overwhelm the reader. It would be a welcome addition to most personal medical libraries.

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Q&A Color Review of Respiratory Medicine is a collection of 211 questions and answers that cover a broad range of topics in pulmonary medicine. The book is designed to cover many of the different clinical problems faced by pulmonologists, with emphasis on common conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung cancer. The contributing authors cover a wide range of expertise, practice settings, and experience.

The book is written in a question-and-answer format, and each question is independent of the next. Accompanying the questions are color illustrations that provide important clinical information. The illustrations include radiographs, pictures of physical findings, results of diagnostic tests, and images of gross and microscopic pathology. These illustrations are, as the title suggests, the highlight of the book. The care that the authors took in selecting radiographs and images is evident. The graphs and diagrams are simple and easy to understand. The answers to each of the questions are provided on the back side of each page.

The questions are diverse, both in topic and in style. Some questions require simple recognition of a physical-examination finding and a one-word answer. Others are opened ended and require thought and organization prior to answering. This diversity is both interesting and realistic, given that in clinical medicine one is often faced with a similar potpourri of problems when managing a patient. The answers are concisely stated and easy to follow.

The book attempts to cover a broad range of pulmonary topics. Questions range from the management of critical-care issues, such as acute respiratory distress syndrome, to