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ERRATUM

The editor has been informed that there is an error in the following paper:

The fortunes of the legal and medical professions during the “Troubles” – Presentation to the Northern Ireland Medicolegal Society – October 14, 2014

Philip McGarry
Ulster Med J 2015; 84(2): 119 – 123,

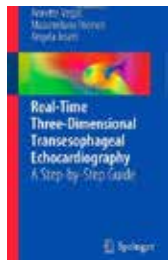
Page 121 refers to Gordon Blair of the School of Dentistry – the correct name is George Blair. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Book Review

REAL-TIME THREE-DIMENSIONAL TRANSESOPHAGEAL ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY. A STEP BY STEP GUIDE.

Annette Vegas, Massimiliano Meineri, Angela Jerath

Publisher: Springer, 2012. ISBN-13: 978-1-4614-0664-8. RRP £40.99



This is a richly illustrated reference book of 234 pages that has been condensed into a spiral-bound pocket book format that can sit on the patient's bed as you are performing a transoesophageal echo (TOE) study! The authors are anaesthetists based in Toronto General Hospital – a major Canadian cardiovascular centre.

Their cardiac surgical expertise is reflected in extensive sections on native and prosthetic valve assessment as well as transcatheter aortic valve replacement, inter-atrial septum occlusion, ventricular assist devices and cardiac masses.

The book is well suited for someone learning or performing TOE in a tertiary centre or referring patients to such a centre for cardiac valvular or device interventions.

The acquisition of images and image interpretation is well explained and there are extensive notes on the pathology of each disease as well as classifications of the different types of valves and devices with their characteristic findings on TOE. This extends to notes about the “washing jets” – small leaks associated with the movement of metallic valve leaflets that can be confused with paravalvular leaks by the unwary.

The book does not delve into post-processing of 3D images which can be time-consuming and frustrating, but the golden rule of post-processing is that you need good quality data in to get an excellent image out and the guidance offered in this book should help greatly with that.

I always take this handy pocket book into the echo lab during my TOE sessions – I can't think of a higher recommendation than that.

Dr John Purvis
Consultant Cardiologist