Handbook of Pathology and Pathophysiology of Cardiovascular Disease (Developments in Cardiovascular Medicine)

Stephen M. Factor, Maria A. Lamberti-Abadi, Jacobo Abadi
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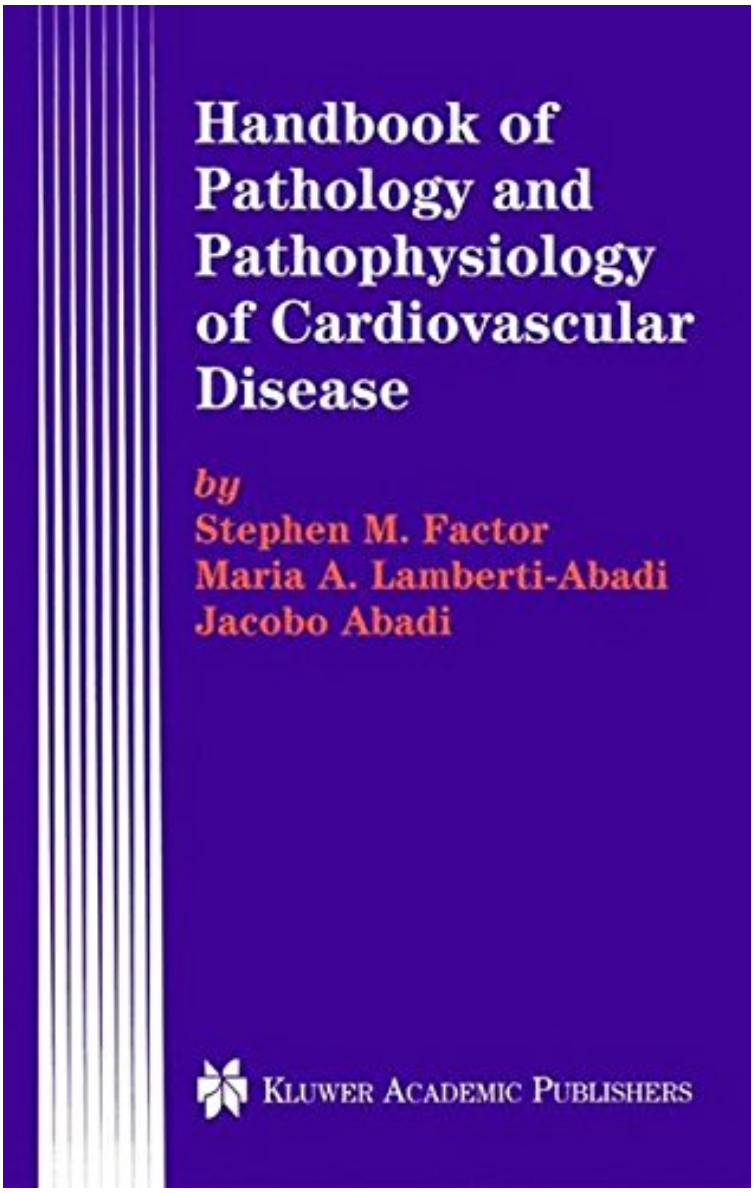

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Stephen M. Factor, Maria A. Lamberti-Abadi, Jacobo Abadi : Handbook of Pathology and Pathophysiology of Cardiovascular Disease (Developments in Cardiovascular Medicine) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Handbook of Pathology and Pathophysiology of Cardiovascular

Disease (Developments in Cardiovascular Medicine):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Review by John P. Veinot, Ottawa Civic Hospital, Ontario, CABy A CustomerThe book consists of 34 cases in a problem-based (PBL) format. There are about 90 BW photos and micrographs from post-mortem exams, an anatomy glossary, and laboratory normal values. The book chapters include practical cardiac anatomy, atherosclerotic heart disease and ischemia, diabetes, cardiomyopathies, valve disease, congenital heart disease, endocarditis, myocarditis, cardiac tumors, pericardial disese, aortic aneurysms, collagen vascular diseases and vasculitis, and medicolegal cases.In reviewing the book, I must state I am biased. Autopsy pathology is being challenged with decreasing numbers of cases for a variety of reasons. This is unfortunate. Autopsy pathology remains an excellent opportunity for learning and clinicopathological correlation. There is simply not enough of this "classical" training in Medicine. The autopsy remains relevant to medical practice. The more one learns about disease, the better one will be able to treat the living.The book details numerous cases, autopsy findings and discusses the clinical presentation, disease complications and manifestations. It succeeds admirably in this task. One can argue that the cases are a bit dated and some perhaps not reflective of recent medical care (not much in coronary interventions, which are now common place), but the authors do point this out in most cases. I do not feel this distracts from the goal of the book - to encourage active thought of disease pathology and its clinical consequences.The book obviously focuses upon cardiovascular disease, but I particularly found the discussions of how generalized disorders, including diabetes and endocrine diseases such as thyroid disease, affect the body. In autopsy pathology, one must consider the whole patient and the disease interactions in multiple systems. This is of course also what one must do with the living we are assessing and treating. Dr. Factor is an internationally recognized expert in myocardial disease and thus these sections are particularly strong.The case mix is generally well chosen. One can point out omissions and criticize inclusion of esoteric disease, but in general the book is well balanced, reflective of most important disease categories, and not meant to be all-inclusive.Some of the illustrations are dark and a bit hard to interpret. I also personally would have like to see more illustrations, but this must be balanced with the cost of the book.Who should read this book? The authors state "it is intended for use by medical students in problem-based curricula, but is presented with sufficient sophistication to be useful to residents in pathology and internal medicine, and to pathologists and cardiologists." I agree with this. I plan to use it with medical students and residents doing electives in Cardiovascular and Anatomical Pathology. It would be excellent to give to residents to study during their autopsy rotations. I think it could be valuable for trainees in pathology, cardiac surgery, and cardiology. For my own continuing medical education, I found it interesting and informative, and I plan to revisit my favorite parts.

Autopsy derives from the greek word autopsia, which means act of seeing with ones own eyes. It remains the most objective and accurate method to understand human. disease. Unfortunately, the volume of autopsies in teaching hospitals has decreased dramatically over the past years. The crucial factors that account for this are the recent progress and development of new technologies, especially in diagnostic imaging, immunology, cell biology and genetics. Additionally, the perpetual fear of legal liability by physicians accounts for its further decline. Consequently, physicians and medical students are engaged in fewer autopsies and are not reaping the rich educational rewards that accompany these examinations. The purpose of the autopsy is not only to establish the cause of death, but also to determine the nature and course of the disease process. Our goal with this book is to emphasize the importance of the post-mortem exam and the correlation between pathologic material and clinical data by analyzing actual cases with problem-based methodology. The focus of this handbook is on cardiovascular disease, and when appropriate, other disease categories are included if they have an impact on cardiovascular function. The approach is more than the usual clinico-pathological correlation. Rather, we attempt to present the material from the perspective of the autopsy table. We use the clinical data as the initial framework and the autopsy findings to develop a true understanding of the disease and the associated pathophysiology of the condition.

About the AuthorDr. Stephen Factor is a founding member and former president of the Society for Cardiovascular Pathology and the founding editor of the journal `Cardiovascular Pathology'. Dr. Maria Lamberti-Abadi is a diagnostic pathologist and cytopathologist with special interest and publications in cardiovascular disease and gynecologic pathology. Dr. Jacopo Abadi has extensive clinical and research interests in infectious disease.