Like many multi-authored books, Part II suffers from redundancy in some of its chapters. This is related to the structure of having an overview chapter covering postoperative complications following infrarenal aortic surgery which is then followed by chapters detailing these complications. Similarly, there is an overview chapter of the complications following endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm repair which is then followed by specific chapters on individual complications. Finally, there is an overview chapter on graft occlusion following lower limb revascularization, followed by two chapters discussing occlusions of lower limb venous bypasses and lower limb prosthetic grafts. Some chapters covering these individual complications could have been combined into one, such as the chapter discussing endoleaks and the one discussing the concept of endotension. Similarly, the chapters on spinal cord ischemia following abdominal aortic surgery and following thoracoscopic abdominal surgery could have been combined into one, eliminating some repetition in the anatomic aspects. It is also hard to assess whether there is some overlap between Part II and Part I, especially since both parts include chapters covering lower extremity bypass failure, myointimal hyperplasia, and hypercoagulability, as well as chapters on thoracoabdominal aneurysms.

This book could have been improved by subdividing it into various sections. The chapters could have been organized into sections devoted to open aortic surgery, endovascular aortic surgery, open surgical lower limb revascularization, and endovascular treatment of lower limb occlusive disease, with a miscellaneous section including a potpourri of topics. Having 30 unorganized chapters, with the first two dedicated to groin infection and reperfusion injury and compartmental hypertension, followed by chapters on aortic surgery, and finishing with material on lower limb revascularization, seems not ideally organized.

Nevertheless, the book provides a great deal of focused and useful information. Most importantly, it is the only book currently available that focuses on vascular complications. It will be enjoyed by vascular surgery trainees as well as seasoned vascular surgeons and will serve as an excellent reference.

**Zollinger’s Atlas of Surgical Operations**


Surgery has evolved significantly over the last decade. The *Atlas of Surgical Operations, 8th edition*, by authors Zollinger and Zollinger, attempts to highlight the more pertinent techniques used today. A traditional general surgeon will find this book particularly useful because it depicts a broad range of operative techniques.

The 2003 edition has added 11 new chapters and 16 new plates since the 7th edition was published in 1993. Interestingly, the style and appearance of the pen and ink drawings that have endured nearly 70 years conjure an incongruous feeling relative to the new colorful glossy exterior cover. There is more focus on advanced laparoscopic operations, including the commonly performed appendectomy, splenectomy, and Nissen fundoplication. However, the authors are particularly interested in defining the core major general surgical procedures using well-established and safe techniques because, despite today’s fragmentation of general surgery into subspecialties, the surgeon must ultimately be responsible for both operative competence and judgment.

Of note is that the indications and diagrams for a full radical mastectomy have yielded to wide local excisions and sentinel lymph node dissections. The authors acknowledge that pathologies such as breast cancer can now be treated less invasively with integrated approaches, with equally good outcomes. Also, to the chagrin of some surgeons, minimally invasive intervention has supplanted major open force operations such as portosystemic shunts.

I believe the strength of the atlas rests in the breadth of surgical techniques depicted in one book. Certainly studying or reviewing from a single book fosters continuity and comprehension. On the other hand, more specialized texts such as Rutherford’s *Vascular Surgery* offer more complete lists of indications and more precise attention to detail.

The new *Atlas of Surgical Operations* is best suited for younger general surgeons adventurous enough to dabble in all subspecialties. Ultimately, the authors must be praised for providing well-guided illustrations of surgical techniques that will serve to supplement any surgeon’s armamentarium.

**Jamal Hoballah, MD**

University of Iowa

Iowa City, Iowa

10.1016/j.jvs.2004.01.002

**Ricardo Vasquez, MD**

Carle Foundation Hospital

Urbana, Ill


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