

# CURRENT CLINICAL MEDICINE



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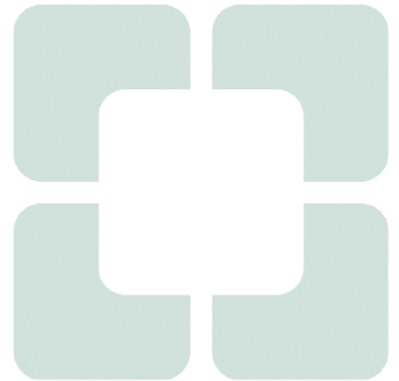
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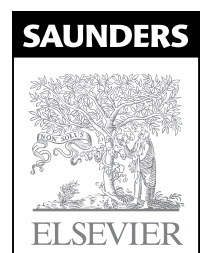


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***Online + Print***

**William D. Carey, MD**

The Cleveland Clinic  
Cleveland, OH



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*To the memory of Eileen Cawley  
A generous family gift in her memory made this work possible.*

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**Donald Vidt (Hypertension)**

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## Preface

*Cleveland Clinic Current Clinical Medicine* springs from a web-based textbook of medicine that has met with success for more than a decade. Two attributes characterize the chapters in this book: authors are either current or past members of the Cleveland Clinic staff; wherever appropriate, chapters reference, expand, and elaborate on nationally produced clinical practice guidelines. I am extremely pleased with the reception of the book's first edition. There have been many positive reviews, some with helpful suggestions for improvement. And we listened. In this edition are 18 new chapters and 61 substantially updated ones. More than ever, it covers topics most likely to be seen by a generalist. It retains simplicity and practicality, as well as the beautiful artwork, photographs, tables, and figures. It seeks to be your daily medical guide.

The book rests on the shoulders of the Section Editors. I owe them special gratitude for their commitment to the project. The Section Editors are recognized experts with considerable clinical and editorial experience. They have assembled the best experts from their respective specialty areas to produce a work that will be of maximum benefit to the practicing clinician. Although most current Section Editors have been present since the inauguration of the web-based virtual textbook, *Disease Management Project*, some have moved on. Brian Bolwell, MD, a longtime member of the Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute, holds many important posts; he may best be known for his development of the highly successful bone marrow transplant program. Brian served as the first Section Editor for the Hematology and Oncology Section. Donald Vidt, MD, served as the inaugural Section Editor for the Renal Section. He retired after devoting more than 40 years to an active consulting practice in hypertension and renal disease, combined with medical education and clinical research. David Longworth, MD, was the first Infectious Disease Section Editor. Dr. Longworth served for many years as Chairman of the Department of Infectious Diseases at the Cleveland Clinic. He has published numerous articles in scientific journals and book chapters; he has also edited four textbooks. He is currently Professor and Deputy Chairman, Department of Medicine, Tufts

University School of Medicine. Since publication of the 2009 edition of this book, Patrick Sweeney, MD, and Herbert Wiedemann, MD, have moved to Emeritus Section Editor status. I welcome aboard new Section Editors, Jinny Tavee, MD (Neurology) and Raed Dweik, MD (Pulmonary).

The lion's share of thanks goes to the chapter authors. Each is inundated with requests for intellectual contributions—no surprise given their stature in their respective fields. That so many would agree to support this book is a source of tremendous satisfaction. I am beholden to each and every one.

As important as authors and editors, the daunting task of publishing a textbook requires an extended family of publishers, editors, and project managers, and a legion of support staff invisible to the Editor-in-Chief. This book relied on the willingness of Rolla Couchman, Acquisitions Editor at Elsevier, to see promise in this work. His encouragement and good cheer were invaluable. His successor, Druanne Martin, was a tireless advocate. Rolla and Druanne have since left Elsevier to be replaced by the equally capable and encouraging Dolores Meloni. Elsevier's Developmental Editors, Julia Bartz and Mary Beth Murphy, and Project Managers, Jeffrey Gunning and Pete Faber, all played major roles in making this work come to life, and I thank each of them. At the Cleveland Clinic, Ronna Romano deserves special thanks for having ably served as the first manager of this work. Donna Miller and her team did a superb job of crafting each chapter into a unified website.

Finally, it is appropriate to recognize the Cleveland Clinic as an environment that fosters excellence in medicine and urges its faculty to be the best. The founding fathers of this organization urged its creation more than 90 years ago "... to act as a unit." More than words, the Cleveland Clinic culture provides an environment of mutual support for development of best clinical practices and for education of those within and outside our walls.

William D. Carey, MD  
Editor-in-Chief

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# Contents

## Section 1 Allergy and Immunology

- Asthma** 2  
*David M. Lang, Serpil C. Erzurum, and Mani Kavuru*
- Allergic Rhinitis** 19  
*David M. Lang*
- Anaphylaxis** 24  
*Fred Hsieh*
- Hymenoptera Venom Allergy** 28  
*Velma L. Paschall*
- Urticaria and Angioedema** 34  
*Sandra Hong and Sheila Armogida*
- Sinusitis** 38  
*Christine Radojicic*
- Approach to and Management of Adverse Drug Reactions** 43  
*Mercedes E. Arroliga and Nicola M. Vogel*
- Latex Allergy** 49  
*Lily C. Pien*
- Food Allergy** 51  
*R. Koelsch*
- Occupational Asthma** 53  
*Mark Aronica*

## Section 2 Cardiology

- Coronary Artery Disease** 58  
*Curtis M. Rimmerman*

- Acute Myocardial Infarction** 65  
*H. Michael Bolooki and Arman Askari*

- Complications of Acute Myocardial Infarction** 72  
*Adam W. Grasso and Sorin J. Brener*

- Lipid-Lowering Strategies and Reduction of Coronary Heart Disease Risk** 81  
*Byron J. Hoogwerf and Julie C. Huang*

- Cardiac Risk Stratification for Noncardiac Surgery** 87  
*Mazen K. Khalil and Wael A. Jaber*

- Aortic Valve Disease** 96  
*Gian M. Novaro*

- Mitral Valve Disease: Stenosis and Regurgitation** 102  
*Ronan J. Curtin and Brian P. Griffin*

- Cardiovascular Emergencies** 109  
*Hataya Poonagariyagorn, Matthew Hook, and Deepak L. Bhatt*

- Cardiac Arrhythmias** 114  
*Fredrick J. Jaeger*

- Atrial Fibrillation** 129  
*Thomas J. Dresing and Robert A. Schweikert*

- Syncope** 138  
*Fetnat Fouad-Tarazi, Laura Shoemaker, Ken Mayuga, and Fred Jaeger*

- Pericardial Disease** 145  
*Ron Jacob and Richard A. Grimm*

- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy** 154  
*Michael C. Chen and Harry Lever*

**Dilated and Restrictive Cardiomyopathies** 163

*Corinne Bott-Silverman*

**Heart Failure** 171

*Robert Hobbs and Andrew Boyle*

**Heart Transplantation** 180

*Mohamad H. Yamani and David O. Taylor*

**Diseases of the Aorta** 187

*Gian M. Novaro*

**Peripheral Arterial Disease** 196

*Firas Al Solaiman, Amjad AlMahameed,  
and John R. Bartholomew*

**Venous Thromboembolism** 205

*Esther S.H. Kim and John R. Bartholomew*

**Congenital Heart Disease in the Adult** 212

*Richard A. Krasuski*

**Pregnancy and Heart Disease** 223

*Anjli Maroo and Russell Raymond*

**Section 3 Dermatology**

**Dermatologic Signs of Systemic Disease** 232

*Lisa M. Grandinetti and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Common Benign Growths** 245

*Justin G. Woodhouse and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Melanoma** 250

*Rebecca Tung and Allison Vidimos*

**Nonmelanoma Skin Cancer** 259

*Rebecca Tung and Allison Vidimos*

**Acne ad Rosacea** 268

*Jennifer L. Lucas and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Psoriasis** 272

*Charles Camisa*

**Other Papulosquamous Diseases** 276

*Mandi P. Sachdeva and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Atopic Dermatitis** 280

*Melissa Piliang*

**Contact Dermatitis and Related  
Conditions** 284

*James S. Taylor and Antoine Amado*

**Hair Disorders** 289

*Shannon Harrison, Melissa Piliang, and Wilma Bergfeld*

**Nail Disease** 294

*Sharon Longshore Thornton and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Drug Eruptions** 301

*Ann R. Kooken and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Pruritus** 305

*James S. Taylor, Matthew J. Zirwas, and Apra Sood*

**Pigmentary Disorders** 309

*Apra Sood and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Blistering Diseases** 311

*Brandie Tackett and David Hamrock*

**The Aging Skin** 315

*Oren H. Lifshitz and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Common Skin Infections** 318

*Nathaniel C. Cevasco and Kenneth J. Tomecki*

**Bugs, Bites, and Stings** 329

*Esteban Faith-Fernandez*

**Section 4 Endocrinology**

**Diseases of the Adrenal Gland** 336

*Adriana G. Ioachimescu and Amir H. Hamrahian*

**Diabetes Mellitus: Disease Management** 350

*Byron J. Hoogwerf*

**Microvascular Complications Of Diabetes** 355

*Robert Zimmerman*

**Diabetes Mellitus Treatment** 358

*Tania Babar and Mario Skugor*

**Erectile Dysfunction** 364

*Milton Lakin*

**Flushing** 369

*Christian Nasr*

**Hirsutism** 376

*Priya Chinnappa and Adi Mehta*

**Hypercalcemia and Hypocalcemia** 380

*Mario Skugor*

**Prevention and Treatment of Leg and Foot Ulcers in  
Diabetes Mellitus** 387

*Allan Boike, Michael Maier, and Daniel Logan*

**Obesity** 391

*Stacy Brethauer, Sangeeta Kashyap, and Philip Schauer*

**Male Hypogonadism** 397

*Charles Faiman*

**Osteoporosis** 402

*Mario Skugor*

**Pituitary Disorders 408***Mario Skugor and Amir H. Hamrahian***Hypothyroidism and Hyperthyroidism 416***Mario Skugor and Maria Fleseriu***Section 5 Gastroenterology****Structural Disorders of the Esophagus 422***Edgar Achkar***Motor Disorders of the Esophagus 430***Edgar Achkar***Acid Peptic Disorders 437***Mohammed A. Qadeer and Gary W. Falk***Celiac Disease and Malabsorptive Disorders 443***Jamilé Wakim-Fleming***Pancreatic Disorders 447***Tyler Stevens and Darwin L. Conwell***Inflammatory Bowel Disease 463***Bret A. Lashner***Irritable Bowel Syndrome 468***Katherine Freeman***Acute Diarrhea 474***David S. Lever and Edy Soffer***Antibiotic-Associated Diarrhea and *Clostridium difficile* 478***Ronnie Pimental and Anuja Choure***Colonic Diverticular Disease 482***H. Nail Aydin and Feza Remzi***Colorectal Neoplasia 489***Carol A. Burke and Laura K. Bianchi***Section 6 Hepatology****Approach to the Patient with Liver Disease: A Guide to Commonly Used Liver Test 496***William D. Carey***Gallbladder and Biliary Tract Disease 502***David S. Barnes***Alcoholic Liver Disease 506***Kyrsten A. Fairbanks***Inherited Metabolic Liver Diseases 511***Anthony S. Tavill***Chronic Autoimmune Hepatitis 521***William D. Carey***Complications of Cirrhosis: Ascites, Hepatic Encephalopathy, and Variceal Hemorrhage 524***Karin B. Cesario, Anuja Choure, and William D. Carey***Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease 534***Anna Wieckowska and William D. Carey***Viral Hepatitis 539***Talal Adhami, William D. Carey, and Robert S. O'Shea***Primary Biliary Cirrhosis, Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis, and other Cholestatic Liver Diseases 552***Claudia O. Zein***Liver Disease in Pregnancy 558***Jamile Wakim-Fleming***Post-Liver Transplantation Management 564***Bijan Eghtesad, Charles M. Miller, and John J. Fung***Section 7 Hematology and Oncology****Anemia 572***Bernard J. Silver***Disorders of Platelet Function and Number 577***Rachid Baz and Tarek Mekhail***Bleeding Disorders 584***Rachid Baz and Tarek Mekhail***Hypercoagulable States 590***Steven Deitcher***Use of Hematopoietic Growth Factors 598***Alan Lichtin***Acute Myelogenous Leukemia 601***Suzanne R. Fanning, Mikkael A. Sekeres, and Karl Theil***The Myelodysplastic Syndromes 606***Mikkael A. Sekeres***Chronic Leukemias 610***Ronald M. Sobecks and Karl Theil***Chronic Myeloproliferative Disorders 616***Anjali Advani and Karl Theil***Multiple Myeloma 624***Rachid Baz and Brian Bolwell***Non-Hodgkin's and Hodgkin's Lymphoma 631***Stephen Smith***Prostate Cancer 637***Robert Dreicer and Jorge Garcia***Treatment of Colorectal Cancer 641***Richard Kim*

**Esophageal Cancer** 643  
*Ahmed Absi, David J. Adelstein, and Thomas Rice*

**Hepatocellular Carcinoma** 649  
*Federico Aucejo and William D. Carey*

**Head and Neck Cancer** 654  
*Cristina P. Rodriguez and David J. Adelstein*

**Brain Tumors: Meningiomas and Gliomas** 657  
*Glen H.J. Stevens*

**Oncologic Emergencies** 664  
*Mikkael A. Sekeres*

**Cancer Pain** 666  
*Mellar Davis*

**Palliative Medicine** 672  
*Mellar Davis*

## Section 8 Infectious Disease

---

**Travel Medicine for the Primary Care Physician** 676  
*Steven D. Mawhorter*

**Use of Microbiology Laboratory and the Internist** 684  
*Anthony K. Leung and Gary W. Procop*

**Community Acquired Pneumonia** 689  
*Steven Schmitt*

**Infective Endocarditis** 698  
*Thomas F. Keys*

**Infectious Disease Emergencies** 705  
*Nabin K. Shrestha*

**Upper Respiratory Tract Infections** 715  
*Sherif B. Mossad*

**Sepsis** 720  
*Steven P. LaRosa*

**Acute and Chronic Bacterial Cystitis** 726  
*Joseph B. Abdelmalak and Jeannette M. Potts*

**Foodborne Disease** 730  
*Alan Taeye*

**Brain Abscess** 735  
*Carlos M. Isada*

**Biologic Weapons and the Primary Care Clinician** 742  
*Thomas Tallman, Steven Gordon, and Thomas P. Noeller*

**Sexually Transmitted Diseases** 748  
*Rabin K. Shrestha and Kristin Englund*

**Tuberculosis** 758  
*Octavian C. Ioachimescu and J. Walton Tomford*

**Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Disorders** 765  
*Octavian C. Ioachimescu and J. Walton Tomford*

**HIV for the Primary Care Physician** 775  
*Wendy S. Armstrong and Marisa Tungsiripat*

**Hospital-Acquired, Health Care-Associated, and Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia** 781  
*Justin L. Ranes, Steven Gordon, and Alejandro C. Arroliga*

**Tick-Related Infections** 785  
*Alan Taeye*

***Clostridium difficile*** 792  
*Thomas G. Fraser and James F. Swiencicki*

**Adult Immunization** 796  
*Robin Avery*

**Adolescent Immunization** 801  
*Camille Sabella*

**Mycoses** 806  
*Alice Kim*

## Section 9 Nephrology

---

**Kidney Function Assessment by Creatinine-Based Estimation Equations** 814  
*Martin E. Lascano and Emilio D. Poggio*

**Hyponatremia and Hypernatremia** 818  
*Benjamin J. Freda and Saul Nurko*

**Hypokalemia and Hyperkalemia** 824  
*Boon Wee Teo and Saul Nurko*

**Diabetic Nephropathy** 830  
*Saud Butt, Philip Hall, and Saul Nurko*

**Primary Glomerular Diseases** 836  
*Brian R. Stephany*

**Hematuria** 845  
*Richard Fatica and Adele Fowler*

**Acute Kidney Injury** 849  
*Sevag Demirjian and Joseph Nally*

**Chronic Kidney Disease** 853  
*Martin E. Lascano, Martin J. Schrieber, and Saul Nurko*

**Immunosuppression for Transplant Patients and Common Medical Problems in Renal Transplantation** 857  
*Naim Issa and William E. Braun*



**Nephrolithiasis** 864  
*Phillip Hall*

**Hypertension** 868  
*Mohammed A. Rafey*

**General Medical Care of Patients on  
Dialysis** 874  
*Robert Heyka*

## Section 10 Neurology

**Stroke** 878  
*Asma M. Moheet and Irene Katzan*

**Epilepsy** 883  
*Dileep R. Nair*

**Multiple Sclerosis** 888  
*Robert J. Fox*

**Alzheimer's Disease** 893  
*Jinny Tavee and Patrick Sweeney*

**Peripheral Neuropathy** 897  
*Robert W. Shields, Jr.*

**Myopathy** 904  
*Preetha Muthusamy and Jinny Tavee*

**Headache** 909  
*Robert S. Kunkel*

**Sleep Disorders** 914  
*Li Ling Lim and Nancy Foldvary-Schaefer*

**Parkinson's Disease** 922  
*Patrick Sweeney*

**Dizziness** 926  
*Neil Cherian*

**Low Back Pain** 932  
*Kerry H. Levin*

## Section 11 Psychiatry and Psychology

**Behavioral Assessment of the General Medical  
Patient** 938  
*George E. Tesar, Joseph Austerman, Leo Pozuelo, and  
J. Harry Isaacson*

**Anxiety Disorders** 944  
*Jess Rowney, Teresa Hermida, and Donald Malone*

**Chronic Nonmalignant Pain** 949  
*Edward C. Covington and Manu Mathews*

**Recognition and Treatment of Depression** 956  
*George E. Tesar*

**Bipolar Disorder** 966  
*Sami Khalife, Vivek Singh, and David J. Muzina*

**Eating Disorders** 972  
*Kathleen N. Franco*

**Smoking Cessation** 977  
*Kathleen Ashton and David Stroom*

**Psychiatric Emergencies** 981  
*George E. Tesar*

**Schizophrenia and Acute Psychosis** 985  
*Manu Mathews, George E. Tesar, Omar Fattal,  
and David J. Muzina*

**Drug Abuse and Addiction** 995  
*Gregory B. Collins, Mark S. McAllister, and Kamala Adury*

**Alcohol Abuse and Dependence** 1001  
*David Stroom*

**Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in  
Adults** 1006  
*George E. Tesar and Raul J. Seballos*

**Coping with Chronic Medical Illness** 1013  
*Tatiana Falcone and Kathleen N. Franco*

## Section 12 Pulmonary

**Bronchitis** 1018  
*Marie M. Budev and Herbert P. Wiedemann*

**Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease** 1022  
*Georges Juvelekian and James K. Stoller*

**Cough** 1030  
*Rachel M. Taliercio and Daniel A. Culver*

**Cystic Fibrosis** 1037  
*Marie M. Budev and Atul C. Mehta*

**Interstitial Lung Disease** 1045  
*Jeffrey T. Chapman*

**Lung Cancer** 1053  
*Peter J. Mazzone*

**Occupational Lung Disease** 1063  
*Raed A. Dweik and Peter J. Mazzone*

**Pleural Disease** 1071  
*Raed A. Dweik*

**Pulmonary Embolism** 1077  
*Anil Gopinath and Thomas R. Gildea*

**Pulmonary Function Testing** 1084  
*Thomas R. Gildea and Kevin McCarthy*

**Pulmonary Hypertension** 1096  
*Raed A. Dweik*

**Sarcoidosis** 1103  
*Daniel A. Culver*

**Sleep-Disordered Breathing** 1111  
*Marie M. Budev and Joseph A. Golph*

## Section 13 Rheumatology and Immunology

---

**Laboratory Evaluation of Rheumatic Diseases** 1118  
*Marina Magrey and Abby Abelson*

**Fibromyalgia** 1124  
*William S. Wilke, Abby Abelson, and Ravindran Padmanabhan*

**Gout and Pseudogout** 1129  
*Feyrouz Al-Ashkar*

**Paget's Disease of Bone** 1135  
*Elizabeth File and Abby Abelson*

**Osteoarthritis** 1137  
*William S. Wilke and John Carey*

**Primary Angitis of the Central Nervous System** 1140  
*Rula A. Hajj-Ali and Leonard H. Calabrese*

**Polymyalgia Rheumatica and Giant Cell Arthritis** 1147  
*Molloy Eamonn, Curry L. Koenig, and Gary S. Hoffman*

**Rheumatoid Arthritis** 1152  
*William S. Wilke*

**Septic Arthritis** 1158  
*Abby Abelson*

**Soft-Tissue Rheumatic Conditions** 1163  
*Judith Manzon and Raymond Scheetz*

**Systemic Lupus Erythematosus** 1169  
*Bridget Wright, Swati Bharadwaj, and Abby Abelson*

**Systemic Scleroderma** 1177  
*Soumya Chatterjee*

**Psoriatic Arthritis** 1187  
*M. Elaine Husni*

**Ankylosing Spondylitis** 1190  
*Matthew P. Bunyard*

**Takayasu's Arteritis** 1195  
*José Hernández-Rodríguez, Kathleen Maksimowicz-McKinnon, and Gary S. Hoffman*

**Cardiovascular Risk and Prevention in Rheumatic Diseases** 1220  
*Elaine Husni and Atul Khasnis*

## Section 14 Women's Health

---

**Breast Disorders and Breast Cancer Screening** 1206  
*Mark Mayer, Pelin Batu, and Halle Moore*

**Cervical Cancer Screening and Prevention** 1212  
*Xian Wen Jin*

**Female Contraception** 1217  
*Shakuntala Kothari*

**Female Sexual Dysfunction** 1222  
*Julie A. Elder and Yvonne Braver*

**Endometrial, Ovarian, and Cervical Cancer** 1227  
*Kristine Zanotti*

**Hormone Therapy and the Risk of Venous Thromboembolism** 1233  
*Holly L. Thacker*

**Infertility** 1236  
*Tommaso Falcone*

**Menopause** 1242  
*Julie A. Elder and Holly L. Thacker*

**Menstrual Dysfunction** 1247  
*Linda Bradley*

**Polycystic Ovary Syndrome** 1251  
*Marjan Attaran*

**Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder** 1255  
*Gurjit Kaur*

**Vaginitis** 1259  
*Anita Shivadas*

## Section 15 Preventive Medicine

---

**Principles of Screening** 1266  
*Raul J. Seballos*

**Cancer Screening** 1270  
*Raul J. Seballos*

**Preventive Measures and Screening  
for Ophthalmic Problems** 1273

*Jeffrey Y. Chung and Rishi P. Singh*

**Perioperative Evaluation** 1277

*Christopher M. Whinney*

**Aging and Preventive Health** 1285

*Ronan Factora*

**Introduction to Integrative Medicine** 1289

*Thomas J. Morledge*

**Preventing Toxic Drug Interactions  
and Exposures** 1298

*Donald A. Moffa, Jr.*

**Index** 1305