

Reading 'Whole Body Ultrasonography in the Critically III' of Prof. Daniel Lichtenstein is indispensable for intensivists who still need to be convinced of the value of bedside ultrasonography in critical care, but also for those who want to broaden their knowledge of this diagnostic and therapeutic tool.

Already from the first chapters related to 'basic notions of ultrasound' and 'ultrasound equipment requirements' it is clear that the author always has those essentials in mind which are of real importance for the clinician.

A large part of the book is attributed to lung ultrasound for acute respiratory and circulatory failure with in-depth explanation of protocols like BLUE (Bedside Lung Ultrasound in Emergency), FALLS (Fluid Administration Limited by Lung Sonography) and SESAME (Sequential Echographic Screening Assessing MEchanisms or origin of a shock of indistinct cause). Every time again the practical implications for immediate diagnosis and treatment of the critically ill patient are emphasized. Chapters related to critical care interventions like central catheterization, ultrasonographic diagnosis of life-threatening conditions in the whole body and less known applications like assessment of intracranial pressure are making this book a very complete reference for the intensivist. The energy and enthusiasm of the author for ultrasonography splashes from the pages and will certainly have a positive effect on the interested reader.

Patrick Druwé, MD Intensivist Ghent University Hospital