

Book review

Hysterectomy, Vaginal Repair and Surgery for Stress Incontinence

Authors: Sally Haslett, Molly Jennings, Hilary Walsgrove and Wendy Weatheritt.
Publisher: Beaconsfield Publishers. United Kingdom
 Available from Astam, Tel (02) 9566 4400
ISBN: 0906584531
RRP: AUD\$15 NZD\$25
Reviewer: Pauline Chiarelli, Senior Lecturer Physiotherapy
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In most cases, a hysterectomy is a procedure that rarely needs to be performed urgently, giving women time to explore options that might be presented by the surgeon as well as familiarising themselves with pre- and post-operative procedures. Sally Haslett and Molly Jennings lead a team including Hilary Walsgrove and Wendy Weatheritt.

This booklet was originally developed by Haslett and Jennings as a result of working together at St Thomas' Hospital, London, with women who had undergone this type of gynaecological surgery. It was an instant success and now for its fifth edition they have been joined by two experienced co-authors; Hilary Walsgrove and Wendy Weatheritt, respectively a nurse practitioner and a senior physiotherapist, both of whom specialise in women's health.

The booklet provides explanations related to the meaning and effect of the operations and describes how to prepare in advance for them. They then give much useful advice on what to do afterwards, to enable you to gain a full and trouble-free return to normal life. This booklet contains information that will help you and your family prepare for your operation, and then help you get back to normal as quickly as possible afterwards.

The fifth edition is entitled *Hysterectomy, Vaginal Repair and Surgery for Stress Incontinence* and provides new information related to surgical techniques for urinary incontinence, such as colposuspension, tension-free vaginal tape (TVT), and mentions alternatives to this surgery such as injectable bulking agents.

The segment of post-operative recovery is well covered, but while pelvic floor exercises and deep abdominal muscles are both discussed they are not both treated as being part of pelvic floor muscle exercise program. Abdominal exercises are explained as part of back care. Diagrams and photographs are included wherever these are likely to be helpful and the language is very clear.

While this booklet offers comprehensive information about relevant anatomy and pathophysiology using very simple terminology on recovery after gynaecological surgery, it seems quite expensive at about AUD\$15.00 (GBP£4.95) especially since the information is available and can be easily downloaded from various websites.

Book briefs

Antibiotic: Version 13

Publisher: Therapeutic Guidelines Limited
 Available Therapeutic Guidelines, www.tg.com.au
 Tel: 1800 061 260
ISBN: 0975739344
RRP: AUD\$39.00

Therapeutic Guidelines: Antibiotic 13 was released late in 2006. As well as the print format of *Antibiotic: V13*; it is also available electronically in the updated *eTG complete and miniTG* (PDA product). For those unfamiliar with the *Therapeutic Guidelines* series, the guidelines are evidence based and peer reviewed to provide a clinical guide to inform practice and assist in solving clinical problems. The guidelines are reviewed every two years to ensure information is up to date. Of interest to readers will be the chapters on gastrointestinal tract infections, urinary tract infections and genital/reproductive tract infections. For general practitioners and nurses, issues concerning the use of antibiotics in the community and intravenous outpatient therapy are addressed.

Pathophysiology applied to nursing practice

Editors: E Chang, J Daly and D Elliott
Publisher: Mosby (2006)
 Available Elsevier Australia, www.elsevier.com.au
 Tel: freecall Australia 1800 263 951,
 freecall New Zealand 0800 170 165
ISBN: 0729537714
RRP: AUD\$65.00 NZD\$47.00

Written for the Australian practice context this text would be most useful for students of nursing, but would sit well in a clinician's library as a reference. The editors, Esther Chang and John Daly from the University of Western Sydney and Doug Elliott of the University of Sydney, have brought together contributors from all areas of medicine and nursing from across Australia.

As a teaching text in each of the seventeen chapters the learning objectives are set out in the first instance and discussion questions are provided at the end of each chapter along with a comprehensive listing of references. The text describes the pathophysiology of illnesses and diseases relevant to each diagnostic group and the various treatments, including pharmacology and nursing. The text is supported by a comprehensive index.