

Preface to the Second Edition

One of the primary objectives of the first edition of this book was to facilitate understanding and retention of a complex subject in the least possible time—by breaking the subject matter down into small, easily comprehensible sections: these were presented in a logical sequence as flow charts, introducing concepts first, and then gradually building upon them.

The aim of the second edition is no different. However, keeping pace with the requirements of busy modern health providers, several changes have been made. Many sections have been completely rewritten and new ones added. The format is now more conventional. For better readability, the size of the print has been enlarged and made uniform throughout the book. In spite of this, the volume has been kept down to a manageable size.

My thanks are due to Liz Pope, Senior Editorial Assistant; to Grant Weston, Senior Editor, who was involved with my other books as well; to my colleague MA Aleem, for his valuable advice; and to my readers who found the time to provide valuable feedback—much of which is reflected in this second edition.

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