BOOK REVIEW

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'Paramedic Pearls of Wisdom – 2nd Edition'

Guy H. Haskell, PhD, NREMT-P

Jones and Bartlett, 2006

520 Pages. ISBN 0-7637-3870-0

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by

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Paramedic Pearls of Wisdom (2nd Edition) is the latest offering from Jones and Bartlett Publishers, who in 2004 acquired the Boston Medical Publishers best-selling *Pearls of Wisdom Review Book Series*. The acquisition of these renowned titles has expanded the company's position among the leaders in publishing within the disciplines of Medicine, Nursing, Allied Health, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Science, and Legal, and established a strong foothold in the review book market. A collection of questions and answers specifically designed to help students prepare for paramedic state and national certification and refresher programs in the United States (U.S.), it was written in direct correlation to the U.S. DOT 1998 Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic (EMT-P) National Standard Curriculum. Objectives are covered in the order and manner in which they appear within this curriculum. Additional features of this particular book include:

Voices of Experience – each module opens with a vignette from a seasoned paramedic about lessons learned from the field

Module Quizzes – each module concludes with a multiple-choice quiz similar to national certification exams, allowing students to test themselves in a standardised testing format

Mass Casualty and Weapons of Mass Destruction – an additional chapter dedicated to mass-casualty incidents and weapons of mass destruction not covered in the curriculum

Despite the differences in medical terminology, operational issues, and the fact that this text was specifically designed to help students prepare for paramedic certification and refresher programs in the U.S., this book is still relevant to all paramedic professionals worldwide and could provide a valuable resource for students and educators alike. For example, each module could be utilised to prepare professional development activities and/or Summative assessment tasks, or alternatively, could be utilised by individuals to consolidate learning and theoretical knowledge in a *self-directed* learning environment.

Post 9/11 this book is also a timely reminder that first responders need to prepare and train for potential terrorist attacks where weapons of mass destruction continue to be a threat, and if nothing else, some knowledge and understanding in this subject may help to prevent further casualties.

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