When I got this book the first thing flashed my mind was that there are so many books in the market on this subject and pharmacology of anesthetic agents is thoroughly discussed in all textbooks of anesthesia, so why another one? Will it be just an added book to the book shelves of anesthetists or does it cater for the needs of young as well as senior anesthesiologists. With mixed feelings, I started to go through the book slowly, taking my time. My thoughts and ideas got cleared as I went browsing page by page through it.

By the time I finished it, I was happy and clear that this book has to offer something far better in its presentation. Pharmacology has always been a boring subject, and it is the presentation os the subject that makes it interesting and easy to grab. Its application is the most important part. Concise Book of Anesthesia Pharmacology provides us concise knowledge about all types of pharmacological agents which we use during our daily practice of anesthesia in operating rooms and intensive care units. It is so easy to find a particular drug or a group of drugs, the know-how about preparation of infusions as well as for syringe pumps. Further, it provides us the life history of some of the scientists whose contribution means a lot for anesthetists.

The book has been divided into seven sections;

Section 1 is of pharmacology. It contains discussions about every aspect of different pharmaceutical agents, including classification, metabolism, uses, effects, adverse effects and dosage etc.

Section 2 deals with life history of the prominent scientists, who enriched our knowledge about pharmacology.

Section 3 is about algorithms for common difficulties faced during anesthesia and intensive care, e.g., electrolytes imbalance.

Section 4 enlists commonly used scoring systems.

Section 5 is for MCQs for the preparation of exams.

Section 6 is for laboratory values and drug dosage.

In the end there is small section 7 for interventional spine and pain management. And last not the least a Feedback form.

By the end that this book changed my opinion and I am of the opinion that ‘Concise Book of Anesthesia Pharmacology’ should be kept out of the library shelves and can be kept as a companion of anesthetists in the operating rooms and intensive care units. It will especially be helpful to nurses, junior doctors, house officers and postgraduate trainees as well as specialists in routine use of drugs during anesthesia, making infusions in intensive care and during preparation for their postgraduate exams. The book is written in a simple and easy to understandable language.

Professor Imran-ul-Haq, MCPS, FCPS
Department of Anesthesiology & Intensive Care
Wah Medical College, Wah Cantt (Pakistan)