BOOK REVIEW

**Essential Management of Obstetric Emergencies**
By **THOMAS F. BASKETT**

This book provides a sound, sensible approach to obstetric and gynaecological emergencies from the earliest weeks of pregnancy to the puerperium. There are 24 well-laid-out chapters, each one easy to read and clearly emphasizing the most important aspects of management. Each chapter follows on from the previous one in a logical order and ends with selected suggestions for further reading on the topics discussed. In addition to outlining a practical scheme of management, the pathophysiology of the condition to be treated is also discussed.

The author writes in a refreshing style from a standpoint of obviously considerable experience. He credits this experience to time spent working in the remote Canadian North and throughout the book emphasis is placed on dealing with obstetric emergencies when expert help and technical back-up are not immediately available. Despite this, however, there is a great deal in this book which remains relevant to those dealing with patients in the U.K. The casualty officer dealing with obstetric/gynaecological emergencies before specialist help is available, or who is responsible for preparing patients for transfer elsewhere, will particularly appreciate the advice in this book.

The budding specialist in obstetrics and gynaecology will also find much of value, in particular the discussions of the underlying pathophysiology in acute conditions and the linking of this with the essential management of choice.

This is a reasonably priced volume which merits a place in any accident and emergency or obstetric and gynaecological departmental library.

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