

intervention in the elderly should be a return to the patient's premorbid level of function or greater. Early nutritional support is an important consideration.

Section seven is very interesting. Here the author deals with chronic pain and dementia. He discusses the legal issues, in particular, at what point should the capacity for decision making be assessed and what instruments are available for the assessment. The author also explains how Advance Health Care Directive works and what constitutes resuscitation in the operative room. He maintains that until the legal limits of a physician's obligation to withhold futile care are clearly defined, physician and hospital should continue to work within existing ethical and professional guidelines to balance medical obligations with a patient's right of self determination.

Since minimal access surgery is very common in the elderly, a chapter dealing with this topic would have been appreciated. Also, in this cyber age, a DVD/CD-ROM along with this book would have been a bonus. In conclusion, this book is extremely concise and clearly written, and recommended reading for all anesthesiologists.

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ERRATUM

In the Letter to the Editor entitled: "Dexamethasone and ondansetron incompatibility in polypropylene syringes" published in the November 2007 issue, *Can J Anesth* 2007; 54: 953-4, there was an error in the spelling of the second author's name and degree: it should read Jason Nickerson BHSc RRT(A). The publisher apologizes for this error.