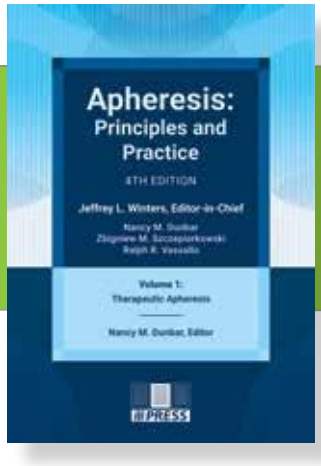
AABB Expands Apheresis Resource Into 3 Volumes



AABB has expanded the fourth edition of *Apheresis: Principles and Practice* into three volumes. The book, considered by many to be the preeminent textbook for apheresis, provides the latest information on the different aspects of apheresis in an expanded, three-volume format that offers expanded information, greater detail and more guidance than was available in the previous editions. In addition to providing expanded space for key topics in apheresis, the three-volume format allows for more timely updates to rapidly changing subjects, such as cellular therapy applications, and for readers to purchase only those volumes that meet their professional needs. The roster of authors for all three volumes represents the top experts in the field of apheresis.

Jeffrey Winters, MD, editor-in-chief of the 4th edition and a member of the AABB Board of Directors, said this new resource is essential for medical professionals. "*Apheresis Principles and Practice* is being updated and expanded to provide coverage of the advances in the field and changes in practice since the publication of the 3rd edition of this AABB classic," he said.

A Focused Approach

The first volume, which was released in December 2020, focuses on therapeutic apheresis and is consistent with the most recent guidelines from the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) that were published in the *Journal of Clinical Apheresis 8th Special Edition*. In fact, many chapter authors served on the Special Issue Writing Committee that came up with the guidelines. "Volume 1, *Therapeutic Apheresis*, provides comprehensive coverage of the clinical use of apheresis in patient care," said Winters. "It provides detailed and practical information that will be of benefit to both the novice and veteran practitioner of apheresis medicine."

Volume 1 covers the history of apheresis, basic principles, patient management and disease-specific applications, with an updated and expanded list of health conditions not included in the previous edition. Each chapter has been updated with the results of clinical studies that were published after the third edition came out, and suggested readings have been updated to include recently published literature. This volume also includes the perspectives of nurses and technologists who work with apheresis instruments and understand how to care for apheresis patients.

The second volume of *Apheresis Principles and Practice*, fourth edition, which is scheduled to be released in April, deals with the collection of blood products by apheresis. "This volume covers all aspects, including devices available for collections, selection and care of the apheresis donor, as well as the quality and regulatory aspects of the collection and manufacture of apheresis blood products," said Winters. "The book is an essential reference for those working in a stand-alone or hospital-based blood collection center that performs apheresis collections. The volume includes new content since the previous edition, including information concerning pathogen reduction of platelets and this technology's influence on platelet collection by apheresis."

AABB plans to release the third volume in the fall of 2021. This text will explore the emerging field of cellular therapy applications of apheresis, which, according to Winters, will include the collection of cells for hematopoietic stem cell transplantation and chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell manufacturing, as well as the collection of peripheral blood-derived cells for other regenerative medicine uses. "In addition to describing the apheresis devices used for these collections," explained Winters, "the text also includes those apheresis devices utilized in the cell manufacturing and processing lab for further processing of the cells." As in the second volume — which deals with blood donors — Volume 3 covers the selection and care of donors for cells used for cellular therapy products. It also discusses regulatory and accreditation requirements. Finally, Volume 3 includes information on extracorporeal photopheresis as this therapy represents a cellular therapy used to alter the immune system similar to the other therapies discussed in this volume. "Volume 3 provides an up-to-date review of this rapidly changing area with chapters written by experts," concluded Winters. ■