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BOOK REVIEW

Title: **THE MULTIPLY INJURED PATIENT WITH COMPLEX FRACTURES**
Author: Marvin H. Meyers
Publisher: Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia (UK Agents – Quest)
 Price: \$71.50

This book is a multi author book concentrating on all aspects of the acutely traumatised patient with special emphasis placed on the treatment of the fractures involved in such patients. As is so rightly pointed out, often the management of the fracture takes on a completely different picture when occurring within the context of multiple injuries than if it occurred in isolation. Each chapter is well written and the diagrams and radiographic plates of high quality.

The initial part of the book deals with the reception and immediate resuscitation of the injured person. It would have been helpful to have seen greater reference to the fluid management of such cases than is given.

Following this the book turns to the diagnosis and management of the various associated injuries that may occur in such patients. It is gratifying to see that chapters have been set aside to include the management of vascular injuries and the recognition and management of compartment syndromes. Often these are forgotten about but in these days of high velocity trauma are becoming more common and if missed can lead to disastrous consequences.

In order to be complete, a little more general surgery should have been included, a notable omission being abdominal visceral trauma.

The second half of the book ends by dealing in detail on an anatomical basis on the various fractures encountered in such patients and their management. Generally speaking these chapters were of a high quality and well illustrated.

In summary an excellent book with a few notable exceptions. It needs to be read and is not a book that can be quickly picked up and used for solving a particular problem.

M. J. Allen