

## “New” Big Red

Many significant changes have occurred in our understanding of critical physiology, facts, practices, and procedures in the recent past. At the same time, as I’ve heard from and interviewed many of you following administration of the examination, many new areas for the Oral examination have come to my attention which deserve special focus based upon recent changes made in the exam and recent changes in expectations the ABA has for performance.

In the late fall of 2007 and early winter of 2008, in preparing the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of Big Red, I made many revisions and updates to reflect important changes in what is now being covered on the ABA Oral examination.

Big Red has been and remains such a powerful central source because it synthesizes and summarizes the key, focused information which we know has been (and will likely again) be tested. This is so critical in an Oral setting because having “the bottom line” on the very tip of your tongue and being able to verbally synthesize and summarize vital information is key to success.

Chapters significantly changed along with topics added are as follows:

Allergic	Sulfite allergy
Cardiac	Congestive heart failure BNP Drug eluding stents
CPR	Monophasic vs Biphasic defibrillators
Eye	Post-op visual loss
Drugs	New drugs added, several removed
ICU	RSBI Re-intubation in ICU Nitric oxide
Monitoring	PA catheters: evolution of use, current indications, ASA Practice Parameter synthesis of information
Myocardial Isehemia	Dobutamine Stress Testing
NM Block	Old drugs removed, new ones added

Obesity	ASA Practice Parameter summarized, synthesized
Pacemakers	ASA Practice Parameters reviewed Magnet effects Medtronic and Boston Scientific (formerly Guidant) pacemakers
Respiratory	Four significant changes
Uncommon Diseases	Sarcoidosis
Volatile Anesthetics	New Drugs added, several removed