Preface

This book is intended to closely approximate the tone, scope and format of the United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties (UCNS) Neurocritical Care certifying examination. Each practice test is exactly half the length of the actual certifying exam. Readers may utilize this book any way that they see fit; however, if the desire is to recreate the real-life testing experience as closely as possible, each test should be taken in one sitting, with limited interruption (bathroom breaks only), over a maximum of 2 h.

The content is split evenly between neurological disease states and general critical care, and the individual subjects are drawn directly from the core curriculum as defined by the UCNS. Broadly, those subjects are as follows: cerebrovascular disease, neurotrauma, seizures, neuromuscular diseases, demyelinating diseases, neuroendocrine derangements, neuro-oncology, encephalopathies, coma, brain death (including organ donation and end-of-life care), perioperative neurosurgical care, the physiology and pathology of cardiovascular/renal/pulmonary/gastrointestinal illnesses, infectious disease, hematologic disorders, transplant medicine, general trauma and burns, invasive monitoring, clinical scoring systems, administrative issues (including resource allocation and performance improvement), and the ethical and legal aspects of critical care medicine.

Please note that the UCNS did not officially advise on the development of this book. Candidates are encouraged to visit www.ucns.org for more information.

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