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Manfred Oehmichen (ed) Hypothermia: clinical, pathomorphological, and forensic features. Research in legal medicine, vol 31.

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The book is based mainly on the results of an interdisciplinary workshop that took place in December 2003. Also included under the theme of hypothermia are questions arising from topics such as the hypothermia experiments carried out in concentration camps by the Nazis, survival chances of avalanche victims and those on the high seas (e.g., the Estonia accident), as well as prevention measures for the homeless.

The structure of the book is well thought out and allows the individual topics to be rapidly located. The book has an ample index for literature as well as a glossary of subjects covered. The book is divided into four main chapters covering the following themes: basic principles of hypothermia; hypothermia in the city, water, and mountains; forensic diagnostic aspects of hypothermia; and clinical aspects. Fur-

thermore, the book gives a review of the risk factors and clinical course of treatment of hypothermic patients. In this context, special attention is paid to the evaluation of rectal temperature, acetone concentration, the histological demonstration of lipid accumulation in the renal tubules, and biochemical analyses. Each contribution is structured in a similar way, ending with a list of references covering the most recent publications.

The black-and-white figures of macroscopic and histological findings are of good quality. The book contains many graphs, tables, and diagrams which refer directly to the text.

Altogether a very interesting book on the topic of hypothermia.

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