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## Current Problems in Surgery

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## Foreword



The majority of patients undergoing operation for diverticulitis do so electively. In contrast with patients requiring emergent operation where options are limited, decision-making in this group of patients is particularly nuanced. In this issue of *Current Problems in Surgery*, Dr. Mary Kwaan and her colleagues from the University of California in Los Angeles provide a masterful overview on this topic entitled, "Elective Surgical Management of Diverticulitis." After an introduction, they begin with a discussion of systems for classification of severity. Uncomplicated disease is then covered in significant detail, including risk factors for recurrence. A subsequent section deals with complicated disease, including a thorough discussion of the role of percutaneous drainage and of special situations such as the immunocompromised patient and the patient with recurrent disease after a previous operation. The final section addresses right-sided disease in significant detail. Their presentation is lucid and provides the balanced perspectives of experts in the field. This superb treatise is a significant addition to the literature on this subject and should become a valued resource for all physicians caring for patients with this common disease.

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