**Book Reviews**

*The 10-minute Clinical Assessment*

Schroeder K. with contributions from Jenkins G.


This book is about focused approach to clinical problems with which patients approach their health care providers. It sets out in a systematic way how to gather essential clinical information swiftly during a brief consultation. The approach described is a distillate of the author’s clinical experience, who has spent many years in general practice and is Senior Clinical Lecturer in General Practice at the University of Bristol. The author has chosen 154 common clinical problems, 21 of them related to pediatrics, 7 to geriatrics and the rest distributed among different systems. Each topic is discussed in a holistic manner to include patients’ concerns, their expectations and beliefs as well as issues that must be assessed (‘red flags’) for recognition of important disease patterns. Every section has been reviewed by specialists in primary and secondary care, and then field tested among general practitioners, trainee doctors, medical students and nurses. The discussion of each topic is with relevance to latest evidence and guidelines with key references provided at the end. The book is aimed at medical students preparing for their final examinations, trainee doctors, nurses and paramedics—in short health professionals who have to assess patients under time constraints, for example, in departments of accidents and emergency.

This excellent book will appeal not only to its intended target audience but also to experienced health professionals who have to assess patients swiftly.

G. J. Ebrahim

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Advance Access Published on 30 June 2010

*Evidence-Based Infectious Diseases, 2nd Edition,*

Edited by Loeb M., Smail F. and Snieja M.


The first edition of this title was published in 2004. Since then continuing interest in infectious diseases coupled with new developments and research in the basic sciences have led to this second edition. The editors and 39 contributors have searched the literature to provide the readers with a product of outstanding scholarship. Each of the 18 chapters of the book is based on a large number of studies (average number of chapter references 135; range 45–405) published during the past 5 years. Studies have been carefully assessed regarding quality of evidence as well as ‘best evidence’ for practicing physicians. The text is arranged in two parts—Part I is devoted to specific infectious diseases, and Part II to specific populations. Three new chapters have been added namely on Influenza, Critical Care and Infections in Long Term Care. Each chapter opens with a case presentation followed by a systematic approach to queries that arise such as evidence-based diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and prevention, all at their best in the chapter on Tuberculosis. As the title suggests, the target audience are general physicians, specialists in infectious diseases and trainees. This book provides state-of-the-art ground work according to the current knowledge. The opening chapter describes the methodology for searching the literature for the reader to stay up-to-date.

G. J. Ebrahim

doi:10.1093/tropej/fmq017

Advance Access Published on 10 March 2010

*Radiology: Clinical Cases Uncovered,*

Shaw A., Godfrey E., Singh A. and Massoud T.


A member of the series ‘Clinical Cases Uncovered’, this book follows the usual format of the series wherein clinical cases drawn from real-life experiences are presented followed by questions and answers leading to differential diagnoses, potential causes of the pathology, identification of co-morbidities by means of investigation and final diagnoses. Clinical and radiological information is presented in a stepwise manner delineating key information. Logical presentation of information helps the reader to build a mental picture of the disease process as it unfolds and how it is identified, thereby consolidating learning. The science of imaging is put in clinical context, promoting critical reasoning and a better understanding of the pathology. At the end of each chapter, there is a clinical summary and a call-out box giving key points of the case.