

NEW PUBLICATIONS

BOOK REVIEWS

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Guide to Asthma: How to Help Your Child Live a Healthier Life

Edited by Julian Lewis Allen MD, Tyra Bryant-Stephens MD, and Nicholas A Pawlowski MD, with Sheila Buff and Martha M Jablow. Published by Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ, 2004. ISBN 0-471-44116-3. Paperbound, xi + 244 pp. (21.5 × 14 cm), \$14.95. www.wiley.com

Therapeutic Area: The book presents useful strategies and educational tools for parents and caregivers of children with asthma to help them understand and manage the disease successfully. Editors encourage readers to accept the concept that asthma cannot be cured, but instead to embrace the fact that it can be controlled and their child can live a normal life with appropriate management.

Format: This soft-cover book contains 16 chapters, a glossary of terms, a section on educational materials and resources (including community support), and a complete index. It is written at approximately the 12th-grade reading level.

Audience: The intended audience is parents or caregivers of children with asthma; however, this book is also an excellent primer reference for healthcare providers and students interested in learning more about current asthma practice. It also describes the unique and often difficult challenges present in the pediatric population.

Purpose: The book is a concerted effort of pediatricians and nurse practitioners at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and was partially funded by a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts. The objective is to create a useful reference for parents and caregivers by clearly explaining asthma and its management. The book provides an in-depth look into pediatric asthma management, targeting methodologies parents can utilize to achieve better understanding and, ultimately, better disease control. The editors' goal is to provide a tool for everyday life that can assist in the achievement of every parent's dream, for their child to lead a normal life.

Content: The book contains up-to-date clinical information on asthma, as well as techniques that enable families to manage their child's asthma. Included are chapters on pathophysiology, diagnosis, trigger control, treatment, types of medications and delivery systems, instructions for use of medications and devices, managing an asthma flare-up, what to do in case of an emergency, family dynamics, sports and exercise, transmission of age-appropriate information (from infants to teenagers), travel, and community and healthcare institution issues. The book also includes portrayals of children with asthma in vignettes, a discussion of complementary medication use, and a separate section on educational materials such as illustrated inhaler technique instructions and examples of an asthma action plan and home management plan.

Usability: Editors incorporated current treatment practices from National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) guidelines into this complete reference on asthma education. The material is well organized, thorough, and easy to follow. The book is reasonably priced and is a useful tool for the parent or caregiver of a child with asthma.

Highlights: The book is a culmination of years of experience and knowledge of healthcare professionals dedicated to helping children with asthma lead normal lives. I commend the editors for not using the commonly used term "asthmatic child," which implies that the disease defines the child, but as "children with asthma." They emphasize that the disease can be controlled and the children can lead normal lives. The

only limitation I can identify is that the reading level may be too high for some parents.

Comparison with Previous Edition: All chapters have been updated from the previous edition published 10 years ago. The book is up-to-date and consistent with NHLBI guidelines for the treatment of asthma. It could be used in required or elective courses in an introductory healthcare program's pharmacotherapy course.

Summary: The book is well written and organized. It contains in-depth information on pediatric asthma management and will be a useful reference tool for the family with a newly diagnosed child as well as children with an established asthma diagnosis. The book also contains pertinent information for entry-level pharmacists, pharmacy students, and other healthcare professionals interested in an informative introduction to pediatric asthma.

Reviewer: **Deborah S Chan** PharmD FASHP CDM, Pediatric Clinical Research Pharmacist, Department of Pediatrics, MCHK-PE, Tripler AMC, Hawaii

The views expressed in this book review are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Army, Department of Defense, or the US Government.

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Management of Prostate Cancer, 2nd Edition

Edited by Eric A Klein MD. Published by Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 2004. ISBN 1-58829-304-1. Clothbound, xvii + 667 pp. (26 × 18.5 cm), \$165. Includes eBook/PDA on CD-Rom. www.humanapress.com

Audience: This book would be valuable to urologic surgeons, as well as radiation oncologists, and anyone interested in prostate cancer. Medical oncologists would not gain additional benefit, as the text is light in drug therapy.

Purpose: This updated edition to the original *Management of Prostate Cancer* published in 2000 is one of 11 books in Humana Press' Current Clinical Urology series. The content covers the broad spectrum of prostate cancer, from screening, diagnosis, and prevention to treatment of localized and metastatic disease. All information has been updated and revised compared with the first edition.

Content: The book is divided into 4 parts: Part I: Screening, Risk Factors, Diagnosis, and Prevention; Part II: Localized Disease: Treatment and Outcomes; Part III: Advanced Disease; and Part IV: Applied Molecular Biology. There is also a CD-Rom included, which contains an eBook version that can be viewed on a PC or Mac, and synchronized with your personal digital assistant.

Part I covers 8 chapters and includes information from mortality and SEER incidence trends to techniques in biopsy and pathology diagnosis. Chapter 1 attempts to explain the difference in prostate cancer incidence in the pre- and post-prostate-specific antigen (PSA) era. The next chapter includes information on total, complexed, and free PSA, as well as other molecular markers. PSA-based screening for the young male is covered, as well as hereditary and genetic risk factors for prostate cancer. The sixth chapter discusses prostate cancer among African Americans and attempts to explain why that population is at greatest risk for this disease.

The section concludes with 2 chapters on current issues in pathologic evaluation and current trends in biopsy technique.

More than 350 pages are dedicated to Part II: Localized Disease: Treatment and Outcomes. The section ranges from a discussion on "watchful waiting," and when it is appropriate, to surgical technique for radical prostatectomy. Open, laparoscopic, and perineal approaches are also covered. The chapter on radiation therapy for local disease discusses external beam, intensity-modulated, and particle-beam radiotherapy. Several chapters are devoted to improving quality of life following radical prostatectomy and external-beam radiotherapy. The last 2 chapters of this section are interviews of a prostate cancer survivor and his wife to show their views on the disease. This is a great and novel idea for which the editor should be commended.

The third section, Advanced Disease, covers topics including androgen deprivation, chemotherapy, salvage prostatectomy or radiotherapy, and bone-targeted therapy. One chapter provides detailing when a patient should be referred to a medical oncologist. The final section deals with applied molecular therapy. The first chapter describes the biology of prostate-specific membrane antigen and its potential use as a diagnostic and therapeutic target. The second chapter describes opportunities for targeted molecular therapy. This chapter by Philip Kantoff and colleagues provides a useful overview to newer therapies for prostate cancer.

Usability: This is a very timely and thorough text detailing all aspects of the care of patients with prostate cancer. Each chapter has comprehensive references, which have been updated since the previous edition, as well as an extensive index to help locate that one specific prostate cancer question. Although there is very little information regarding drug therapy for prostate cancer, the editor made an effort to discuss cutting-edge therapies and techniques. We would hope that the editors would expand this area for future editions. Pictures aiding in the description of surgical and radiological techniques, as well as molecular pathways, are well placed and aid in the understanding of these complex topics.

Summary: This well-written textbook provides a thorough review of prostate cancer. This would be a great textbook for medical reference libraries.

Reviewers: **Michael C Cox** PharmD BCOP, Clinical Fellow, Clinical Pharmacology Research Core, Medical Oncology Clinical Research Unit, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland; **William D Figg** PharmD BCPS FCCP, Head, Molecular Pharmacology Section, Cancer Therapeutics Branch; Head, Clinical Pharmacology Research Core, Medical Oncology Clinical Research Unit, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute

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BOOKS RECEIVED

The Baptist Health Care Journey to Excellence: Creating a Culture that WOWs! By Al Stubblefield BS MS. Published by John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, NJ, 2005. ISBN 0-471-70890-9. Clothbound, xiv + 225 pp. (23.5 × 16 cm), \$24.95. www.wiley.com

Bryson City Seasons. By Walt Larimore MD. Published by Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 2004. ISBN 0-310-25287-3. Clothbound, 314 pp. (21 × 14 cm), \$18.99. www.zondervan.com

Cardiac Safety of Noncardiac Drugs: Practical Guidelines for Clinical Research and Drug Development. Edited by Joel Morganroth MD and Ihor Gussak MD PhD FACC. Published by Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 2005. ISBN 1-58829-515-X. Clothbound, xii + 361 pp. (26 × 18 cm), \$165. www.humanapress.com

Death Receptors in Cancer Therapy. Edited by Wafik S El-Deiry MD PhD. Published by Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 2005. ISBN 1-58829-172-3. Clothbound, xi + 374 pp. (26 × 18 cm), \$165. www.humanapress.com

Essential Psychopharmacology: The Prescriber's Guide. By Stephen M Stahl MD PhD. Published by The Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, 2005. ISBN 0-521-01169-8. Paperbound, xv + 571 pp. (23 × 14 cm), \$50. www.cambridge.org

The Handbook of Clinically Tested Herbal Remedies, Volume 1. Edited by Marilyn Barrett PhD. Published by Haworth Press, New York, 2004. ISBN 0-7890-2723-2. Clothbound, xxxvii + 744 pp. (22.5 × 15.5 cm), \$159.95 for set. www.HaworthPress.com

The Handbook of Clinically Tested Herbal Remedies, Volume 2. Edited by Marilyn Barrett PhD. Published by Haworth Press, New York, 2004. ISBN 0-7890-2724-0. Clothbound, continues 745-1435 pp. (22.5 × 15.5 cm), \$159.95 for set. www.HaworthPress.com

Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference, 34th Edition. Edited by Sean C Sweetman BPharm FRPharmS. Published by Pharmaceutical Press, London, UK, 2005. ISBN 0-85369-550-4. Clothbound, x + 2756 pp. (28.5 × 22.5 cm), \$375. www.pharmpress.com

Seizures in Critical Care: A Guide to Diagnosis and Therapeutics. Edited by Panayiotis N Varelas MD PhD. Published by Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 2005. ISBN 1-58829-342-4. Clothbound, xiv + 380 pp. (23.5 × 16 cm), \$125. www.humanapress.com

Side Effects of Drugs Annual 27. By JK Aronson MA DPhil MBChB FRCP. Published by Elsevier, San Diego, CA, 2004. ISBN 0-444-51356-6. Clothbound, xxxiii + 588 pp. (24.5 × 17 cm), \$235. www.elsevier.com

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