



Textbook of Pediatrics (10th Edition). Victor C. Vaughan III and R. James McKay (eds). Consulting editor: Waldo C. Nelson. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1975, 1,876 pp., \$32.75.

The tenth edition of Nelson's *Textbook of Pediatrics*, advertised by the publisher as "the BIBLE of Pediatrics," is indeed a classical reference in its field. As such, it covers the vast area of children's problems ranging from prenatal diagnosis of disease to prevention of adult atherosclerosis, and discusses the commonplace, such as accidents, infections, and behavioral problems, as well as the more esoteric metabolic disturbances and rare syndromes. Its contents are relevant to any clinician who deals with children, and as a textbook it serves best those seeking general knowledge of a subject or wishing to update specific diagnostic or therapeutic information.

This revision no longer has Dr. Nelson as the primary editor, but the organization of the book is not substantially changed from previous editions. The greatest revision has taken place in the sections on infectious, renal, and gastrointestinal diseases, much of which is under new authorship. Notable additions are a most useful appendix containing drug information, including pediatric dosages, side effects, and precautions; sections on the problem-oriented record, atherosclerosis and hypertension, and failure to thrive; and a more than three-fold increase in the space provided for psychological and behavioral problems.

A book of this length is not something one ordinarily sets out to read from beginning to end, but individual sections are well organized, generally by organ system and standard disease classification, and most are concise, current, and readable. Recent advances and still controversial topics are included, such as the use of the L/S ratio, betamethasone, and ventilatory support in hyaline membrane disease,

the emerging importance of group B streptococcal infections, and IPPB therapy with racemic epinephrine for croup. References in most sections include recent publications as well as older, established review articles and monographs.

A thumb-indexed section on poisoning provides concise but complete descriptions of toxic effects and treatment for many toxic plants and chemicals, but most are listed by chemical name and a useful addition would be a listing of common household items. A table of syndromes is provided but is of limited usefulness because of brevity, although adequate references are provided. The section on immunization practices is given a rather brief and directive approach which lacks a discussion of some of the biological and physiological reasons behind the various recommended schedules.

Overall, this is a well-organized, easily readable, and up-to-date textbook which covers the entire field of pediatrics and will be useful to family physicians, medical students, nurse practitioners, and all other health professionals who care for children.

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Psychiatric Disorders in Adolescents. Richard W. Hudgens. *The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1974, 234 pp., \$15.50.*

This book reports the results of a study, undertaken at a large university medical center, of 220 adolescents, 12 to 19 years of age. One hundred and ten of them were psychiatric inpatients and 110 were controls hospitalized on medical-surgical wards.

The main purpose of the book is "to provide a more complete and systematic classification of psychiatric disorders among teenagers," and I feel that this objective is reasonably well

achieved. However, the scope of psychiatric disorders considered is limited to those disorders which are likely to require hospitalization of the patient, ie, the affective disorders (mania and depression), suicide communications or attempts, schizophrenia, and antisocial personality. The book does not attempt to discuss those disorders which are usually managed on an outpatient basis. In this regard, its usefulness for the family physician is perhaps limited.

Using a research interview, which is presented as an appendix, the author has collected an abundance of detailed socioeconomic, psychiatric, and medical data on his subjects. This information is clearly presented, mainly in tabular form. The book is well organized. Chapter subheadings are succinct, and the text is easily read and free of jargon. Several case histories illustrate each disorder under discussion. Chapter summaries are clear and concise.

The final chapter discusses treatment in broad terms and includes comments on the treatment of disorders not considered in the study. This section for the most part is too general and superficial to be of much value to the therapist. One should look elsewhere for detailed information pertaining to therapy.

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Medical Behavioral Science. Edited by Theodore Millon. W.B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1975, 634 pp., \$14.95.

Knowledge and skill in medical behavioral science is essential for physicians in family practice. Numerous textbooks have been written on the various components of this subject, such as medical sociology, human development, biobehavioral processes, and health care delivery systems, but no author has heretofore attempted to write a text covering the entire field.

Although this book is primarily an anthology rather than a formal text, it is not merely a compendium of miscellaneous topical readings. The editor has sought to achieve three major purposes: (1) to define the scope and structure of this field which has taken the form of a separate and medically

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relevant discipline; (2) to strike a proper balance between behavioral science principles and those of the more traditional medical disciplines, to whet the appetite and furnish some solid underpinnings for those who plan a medical behavioral science career, and to increase the effectiveness of medical practitioners by providing important information to serve as a guide to the psychosocial influences that shape the lives of their patients; and (3) to provide in a single reference work, material useful in preparation for the new behavioral science section of the National Board Examination, Part I.

The book is organized into 54 chapters, each with three presentations by authors from among the 168 eminently qualified contributors. Each chapter is introduced by an average of two pages of editorial clarifications by Dr. Millon. The presentations vary in length from three to 19 pages; 30 are articles from journals, 16 are chapters from books, and the remainder come from magazines, booklets, bulletins, and handbooks. The earliest was written in 1946 and the latest in 1974; 1,194 references are listed; and 12 presentations have a total of 43 illustrations and 13 tables.

The book is further divided into five parts: Part A, consisting of two chapters, is an introduction in both a historical and contextual sense, giving the reader reasons for becoming interested in medical behavioral science and presenting the behavioral environment of the student-physician. The other four parts, each four chapters long, deal with four foundations of medicine with differing perspectives: Part B biobehavioral (or organism) perspective; Part C, psychobehavioral (or person) perspective; Part D, interbehavioral (or relationship) perspective; and Part E, sociobehavioral (or cultural) perspective. One of the more intriguing features of this book is the manner in which each of these areas is covered in depth but blended and orchestrated by the editor's interstitial clarifications and bridges from perspective to perspective.

A noted medical educator once wrote, "Moon walking is simpler than social progress." In an analogous sense,

writing a text on medical behavioral science is more complex and difficult than writing one on anatomy or physiology. Whereas the editor may not have provided us with the last word on the subject because the field will change in coming decades, he is to be congratulated for making this first bold attempt to organize a text to meet the needs of the here and now.

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The Radiology of Emergency Medicine. John H. Harris, Jr. and William H. Harris. Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1975, 500 pp., \$32.50.

Written by two brothers, this work is a very fine reference for any physician working on the "front line" of medical care. This is true whether this individual be a family physician, an orthopedic surgeon, or a general surgeon. The limited amount of curriculum time devoted to diagnostic radiology in most medical schools and the variability of such experience in residency training other than Radiology make a text like this a valuable addition to the library of any physician involved in the care of trauma.

Textual material is arranged in a manner allowing for easy and quick reference. Of equal importance, the book describes positioning of the patient and other aspects of the radiographic examination, and also includes a clear discussion of the radiographic anatomy of each region of the body.

Carefully selected illustrations in generous numbers are a feature that must be emphasized in this review. In each instance, pathology is well marked by arrows. A description accompanies each illustration. The narration that is interspersed throughout the illustrations includes limitation of radiology in various regions of the body and points out various normal situations or conditions that might, on occasion, be confused with pathology.

In summary, this is an excellent book to have at one's elbow when caring for acute trauma.

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