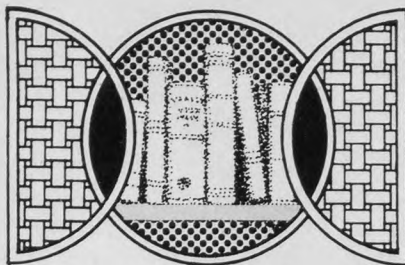

Book Reviews



Clinical Management of Sexual Disorders (2nd Edition). Jon K. Meyer, Chester W. Schmidt, Jr., Thomas N. Wise (eds). Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, 1983, 391 pp., \$39.95.

In recent years, there has been a surge of publications concerning the treatment of sexual disabilities. Authors frequently appear on national best-seller lists and television talk shows. As a result, family physicians are being expected to have knowledge of recent developments in the field of human sexuality. However, misunderstanding and mythology abound concerning this subject. Patients may hesitate to directly discuss sexual difficulties, and physicians may feel inadequate or awkward in doing a sexual history and evaluation.

This book represents a joint effort by the faculty and staff of the Sexual Behaviors Consultation Unit at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. They recognize that, just as with other disorders in medical practice, clinicians treating sexual disorders must be familiar with a number of treatment modalities so that a technique appropriate for the patient's problem and lifestyle may be selected. Therefore, a number of treatment approaches are described, including psychological, pharmacologic, and surgical.

Although this is not a basic "how to" textbook, the sections on

terminology, interviewing, physical examination, and laboratory studies are appropriate for family physicians. Particularly relevant are the chapters on common male and female sexual disorders and the two chapters devoted to sexual disorders in couples and the family.

Clinical Management of Sexual Disorders is directed to all health professionals, since patients with sexual problems may present to a variety of specialists. It serves as a fine reference book both for those reviewing a problem to make a suitable referral and for those seeking more information on specific interventions.

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Psychiatry in Primary Care (2nd Edition). Remi J. Cadoret, Lucy J. King. C.V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1983, 383 pp., \$19.95 (paper).

Psychiatric conditions seen by the primary care physician differ in prevalence and severity from those conditions common to a psychiatric hospital. This book, written mainly for primary care physicians, recognizes this difference, and makes frequent reference to the primary

care literature. The book deals with psychiatric care of adults.

It is well organized, readable, and free of psychiatric jargon. Discussion of etiology is minimized, partly because there is so little agreement regarding causation, and partly because it is of little relevance to diagnosis and treatment. The approach outlined in the third edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* of the American Psychiatric Association (DSM-III) is followed by the authors. This approach involves "syndrome diagnosis" and treatment. Their organized approach to gathering data uses the medical model, based on forming diagnostic hypotheses and using the presence of "criterion symptoms" to establish a diagnosis.

Each chapter deals with a specific type of problem and follows the same pattern: symptoms, incidence, natural history, differential diagnosis, and treatment. In addition, the prevalence of symptoms found in each disorder is supported by reference to specific studies.

The book deals with "clinically significant" psychiatric illnesses, ie, those that have sufficient criterion symptoms and can be categorized as one of the mental illnesses. The authors also discuss the many

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mild, transient problems and many conditions seen by the primary care physician in early stages and the use of the diagnostic term "no psychiatric disorder," which stresses the need to keep an open mind and to follow the patient until the condition clears or a specific diagnosis can be made.

I can find no major faults with this book, and recommend its use by primary care physicians, and in primary care residency programs.

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Evaluating Residency Training (2nd Edition). John B. Corley. Collamore Press, Lexington, Massachusetts, 1983, 300 pp., \$23.95.

This volume contains a wealth of real-life, practical information. As evaluation in the residency program is essential, Dr. Corley's work is a must for every program.

Section I discusses the design and administration of the evaluation process, which can assist in the goal-setting and planning stages of development of a program. Section II deals with the evaluation of residents entering the program, the establishment of a firm data base upon which future evaluations can be based. Section III addresses the ongoing evaluation of residents by teachers, family practice faculty, nurses, and others. Several forms of standardized in-training examinations constitute the body of section IV. The residents get their turn to evaluate teachers, rotations, and conferences in section V.

Meaningful evaluation is the road map to success. This volume

provides guidelines to the residency for the development of a practical, comprehensive, and functional evaluation system. Both the developing program and the established program can benefit from using the ideas presented by Dr. Corley.

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Basic Surgery (2nd Edition). Hiram C. Poke, Jr., H. Harlan Stone, Bernard Gardner. Appleton-Century-Crofts, East Norwalk, Connecticut, 1982, 712 pp., \$24.50 (paper).

This second edition of *Basic Surgery* has several new chapters and has been updated where needed. It contains contributions from many prominent experts in the field of surgery. The book was designed to give the medical student a perspective quite different from that offered by the detailed coverage of a standard surgical text.

The first section, on general approach to surgery, contains a fascinating chapter on the mathematics of clinical judgment, an analysis of the method surgeons use to assess operative risks that gives the medical student a good approach to this subject at an early stage of training.

The section on the physiology of surgical diseases contains chapters on fluid balance, shock, respiratory function and support, infection, immunology, and surgical endocrinology. All of the discussions of these basic science topics are kept clinically relevant by frequent reference to actual conditions and patients.

The third section is organized around common symptoms and conditions that require the applica-

tion of principles of surgical diagnosis and management. The format makes the reading easy, interesting, and easily remembered because the conditions are ones that students commonly see on surgical clerkships and throughout their practice. Some of the patient presentations found in this section are the mass in the neck, coronary artery disease, acute abdominal pain, jaundice, and abdominal mass. Each of these topics is covered in a manner that guides the student toward consideration of differential diagnosis, pathophysiology, management strategies, and prognosis, and it is this section of the book that makes *Basic Surgery* a unique contribution in its field.

The excellent anatomic diagrams, roentgenograms, tables, and graphs that are used throughout the book to illustrate the text deserve comment. They are always on the same page as the explanatory material. The whole organization of material is superb; chapter headings are plainly marked, sub-headings are printed in darker type for ease in finding a specific topic in review, and major points may be listed for emphasis or italicized. The end of each chapter contains review questions that help the student remember and understand the important items in the preceding chapter. In addition, recent references are listed for those who wish more information on the subject.

Basic Surgery is a well-organized book with a unique way of presenting its subject matter. It is an excellent book for medical students to have for their surgical clerkships, and it would also be helpful to any family physician who wishes to review the principles of general surgery.

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