

Reviews of Books, Software, and Audiovisual Materials

Primary Ambulatory Care of the HIV-Infected Adult. Joseph R. Masci. Mosby-Year Book, St Louis, Mo, 1992, 314 pp, \$41.00. ISBN 0-8016-3159-9.

Dr Masci has written a clear and concise book on the ambulatory management of HIV infection for the primary care physician. This easy-to-read book serves as a useful complement to Sande and Volberding's *The Medical Management of AIDS* (3rd edition).

The most helpful features of this book include: (1) its emphasis on establishing an index of suspicion for HIV infection; (2) the clarity of writing; (3) the summary outline at the beginning of each chapter; (4) the differential diagnoses and evaluation algorithms by organ system and patient symptom; (5) the section on medication use during pregnancy; (6) the case studies with chapter cross references; (7) an extensive bibliography for each chapter; and (8) the overview describing frequently asked patient questions.

Dr Masci has been successful in demystifying outpatient care of HIV infection for his target audience of medical students, residents, or beginning practitioners. He also provides a very reasonable approach to a fever-of-unknown-origin workup.

The book has some shortcomings. Although chapter 6, "General Medical Evaluation of the Asymptomatic HIV-Infected Patient," is well organized, a further delineation of issues related to the primary care of women (ie, pregnancy testing, colposcopy, delayed diagnosis) would be desirable. In addition, an assessment of urine toxicology screening tests, which are becoming increasingly important, would be helpful. Case study 4 does not address the abnormal vaginal discharge, referral for a Pap smear, a baseline pregnancy test, or the patient's substance abuse.

Another shortcoming is that a workup of fatigue is not discussed within the book.

Although I do not expect primary care physicians to manage HIV-associated lymphomas, the increasing incidence of this malignancy needs to be described, since patients are living longer in spite of prolonged immunosuppression.

Although this book has been published in 1992, it does not describe the potential uses of paramomycin for

cryptosporidiosis, or clarithromycin for *Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare* infections. Nor does Dr Masci describe the burgeoning epidemic of MDRTB. Furthermore, the lack of discussion of the role of colony-stimulating factors for ganciclovir-induced neutropenia is an oversight. At the time of this review, foscarnet has been approved for the treatment of CMV retinitis.

In summary, the primary value of this book is its well-written approach to the HIV-infected adult patient. It can serve as an introduction to the outpatient management of HIV infection. However, Sande and Volberding's book provides much greater detail for those practitioners who care for a substantial number of HIV-infected individuals.

Susan M. Miller, MD, MPH
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

One Hundred Orthopaedic Conditions Every Doctor Should Understand. Roy A. Meals. Quality Medical Publishing, St Louis, Mo, 1992, 310 pp, \$28. ISBN 0-942219-37-6.

An excellent appetizer often enhances the taste of the main course that follows. In the same fashion, *One Hundred Orthopaedic Conditions Every Doctor Should Understand* is an enticing first course in the orthopedic literature. The author, Roy A. Meals, correctly states in the introduction that orthopedics can be overwhelming. This field of study spans all age groups and includes conditions related to traumatic, congenital, neoplastic, metabolic, infectious, vascular, and degenerative etiology. The text is written in such a fashion that the beginning student can gain substantial knowledge in orthopedics without being overwhelmed.

The book's format is a series of 62 short chapters, each written as a case report. Many of the case reports are written humorously, some even as poetry. This style will not appeal to all but should be a welcome relief to many medical students and residents who have tired of ponderous textbooks. Many chapters contain contributions from students and residents, which keeps the depth of discussion at a level useful to all readers.

One valuable contribution to the book is a series of basic principles that are written in the margins so that they can

quickly be reviewed as one flips through the text. These brief statements contain "pearls" that every physician will want to remember. In addition, an extremely useful cross-reference guide precedes the case studies. This guide references each case report to the anatomical area and to the type of orthopedic conditions so that the reader can quickly turn to three or four case reports to review a particular problem. In addition, numerous clear drawings, radiographs, and diagrams supplement the text.

An inherent weakness of this type of text is that no area receives comprehensive coverage. Also, case reports demonstrate only one way in which a problem occurs. While the book serves as a useful introduction, a companion reference text would be necessary to obtain more detail about specific entities. One advantage over standard texts is that the case report format is a better method to emphasize problems that patients experience with activities of daily living.

This book would be a welcome addition to the library of medical students and primary care residents entering the study of orthopedics. Established physicians who feel that their background in orthopedics is insufficient would also benefit. Academic physicians can best use this book as a teaching guide to common orthopedic problems. The practical approach and entertaining writing style will please many and make this a welcome addition to the primary care literature.

Karl B. Fields, MD
Family Practice Center
Greensboro, North Carolina

Primary Care: Concept, Evaluation, and Policy. Barbara Starfield. Oxford University Press, New York, 1992, 262 pp, \$39.95, (paper \$18.95). ISBN 0-19-507517-X.

Dr Starfield provides a comprehensive background and analysis of many aspects of primary care as it relates to policy. Her book is valuable and unique, filling an important gap in the medical literature. Having its genesis in a course taught at Johns Hopkins University, the book is logically arranged. It begins with an outline of the concept and history of primary care. An extended analysis of the components of primary care follows, and the third part offers a comprehensive analysis of the policy implications in the