This is the second edition of what has become a very popular ‘Paediatric Aid’. It has been painstakingly revised by the author and has been tailored as per the paediatric curricula of the universities running the MBBS programme in Nepal. Many printing errors have been corrected and there are additional write-ups. Though the book’s ‘get up’ is appealing, a few of the black and white photos do not help much, both because of their small size and the clarity attained. The pictures on the cover are exceptions. Certain selected pictures which depict specific conditions could have been printed on glossy paper and inserted in certain parts of the book. There are still the occasional printing errors. Flow charts which are present in various sections of the book help in the understanding of the topics. The inclusion of tables and a multi coloured system of printing will help the user to elicit information quickly.

Common problems have been included and there are guidelines for topics ranging from anaphylaxis to UTI imaging. The key information are in block and highlighted with blue prints. This is helpful as it contains the differential diagnoses which is useful prior to making the final one. The Annexure of the book also contains appreciable information on various aspects of paediatrics. There is a section on clinical examination of the various systems which will be useful to the novice. Other topics such as Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses (IMCI) and Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) signify that local and international concerns have also been dealt with. As the information on certain drugs, the values of blood and other body fluids are also included one hopes that the students will refer to these extensively during the course of their training. Because of its compact form it will be useful for quick revision. It is an aide memoire for viva voce.

Though an A-Z book ought to have 26 Chapters, it has only 19! Perhaps the author will try to rectify this the next time round as the missing letters are very much present in the Index!

There are various WHO Reference Charts at the end of the book. Because of additions the book now has over 500 pages and so naturally there has been a price increase to NC Rs. 600/- per copy. Considering the information that it contains and the knowledge that the student can gain from it, this handy little book which fits into the pocket of the white apron, is still a good bargain.

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Book Review

Clinical Examination Methods in Orthopedics
2nd Edition, 2010
Author: John Ebnezar
Published by Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers

This book titled “Clinical Examination Methods in Orthopedics” is a concise and informative handbook on methods of clinical examination which provides an integrated and structured approach. It will be of great help to budding medical and post-graduate students studying Orthopedics. It is available as an adjunct to the “Textbook of Orthopedics” written by the same author.

The main advantage of this handbook is that it is useful for quick reference while examining patients at the outdoor clinic. Students new to clinical examination are often confused about the chronological order in which to perform their procedures. This book introduces them to an organized system and would help post-graduate students build their own individual protocol of examination. Its small size allows it to fit easily in a student’s apron pocket, hence making it very handy.

This book helps the reader to anticipate the presenting history associated with joint pathologies and diagnose the related problems. As the age old adage goes “the eyes do not see what the mind does not know”, but after reading this book the mind is well prepared prior to the reader’s exposure to the patient.

Several highlighted tables containing important facts that are essential to remember and snippets for revision of the chapter contents are presented, so the individual chapters can be reviewed at a glance. The illustrations are simple, presented with explanations which are easy to comprehend and analyze. References to detailed descriptions of common joint disorders, which are available in the textbook, are given along with page numbers which builds a connecting bridge between the practical and theoretical aspects of diseases and saves time.

I would recommend this book to students and think that it would help increase their knowledge and answer their queries on clinical examination in Orthopedics. There is however some room for improvement. It would have been of greater use if more joints had been included. The examination methods of the hand, foot and ankle have been omitted. Probably the author will include these in his forthcoming edition.

Dr. Rajeev Raj Manandhar
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Jaypee Brothers has published the 10th edition of “The Short Textbook of Medical Microbiology” which is comprehensive, beautiful illustrative and hand. The previous edition has been extensively revised and many new topics in advanced microbiology have been added. This book includes parasitology and entomology which has made this hand book a complete book of Microbiology for MBBS and BDS students and recent graduates. It also covers new advances in molecular Microbiology, emerging and re-merging infections and laboratory and hospital waste. The colored pictures have made it easily understandable. This book has 476 pages divided into parts and is available in the market at a reasonable price.

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