

# PRINT AND MEDIA REVIEWS

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*Paediatric Gastroenterology: Atlas of Investigation and Management.* J. M. Moreno-Villares and Isabel Polanco, editors. 164 pp. \$99.95. Oxford, United Kingdom, Clinical Publishing, 2009. ISBN: 978-1-84692-009-4. Web site for ordering: [www.clinicalpublishing.co.uk](http://www.clinicalpublishing.co.uk).

This textbook is described as an *Atlas of Investigation and Management*. There is a risk that such a book will fail through compromise: insufficiently focused on endoscopic aspects of practice to be of value to the hardcore pediatric endoscopist, while too low in word count to be adequate as a reference volume—a lightweight publication (156 pages in a hardback format) with high-quality pictures.

In fact, this book's perceived disadvantages are actually its strengths. Its layout and subject matter make it a useful text for primary care practitioners, trainees, and those gastroenterologists who, although engaged in adult practice, find themselves occasionally faced with pediatric problems.

The editors, Moreno-Villares and Polanco, are Madrid-based pediatricians with interests and international reputations in parenteral nutrition and celiac disease, respectively, and have authored relevant chapters within the atlas. Although a majority of the contributing authors are Spanish as expected, there is an international contribution from the United States, the United Kingdom, Portugal, and Poland.

The book's approach is to start with common presentations of pediatric problems. Thus, Chapters 1–8 include failure to thrive; diarrhea, acute and chronic; and abdominal masses, whereas chapters 9–15 take a disease-based approach, including celiac disease, inflammatory bowel disease and liver pathology. Chapter 7, which focuses on cow's milk allergy, would sit better in the second part of the book. For the novice in pediatric GI, the breadth and depth of coverage are about right. Despite a multi-author approach, I could find no major conflicts between the chapters of the first and the second parts of the book. There is a remarkable uniformity in style throughout, with key points summarized in a large number of tables. A chapter on pediatric nutrition at the very end could usefully be expanded. The pictures in the book are a combination of clinical, endoscopic, radiologic, and histologic images, with high-quality color throughout and are generally helpful, although the educational value of the photographs of gross specimens obtained at surgery and at autopsy could be questioned. References at the end of each chapter are impressively up-to-date with many of the original papers cited having been published from 2006 to 2008; there are useful "further reading" sections that refer to recent review articles. The index is comprehensive and relevant.

There are a few issues that should be addressed for the next edition. Discussion of capsule endoscopy focuses on the GIVEN product and should be expanded to include other manufacturers. A book packed with endoscopic images could have discussed further the role of endoscopic therapy, particularly in upper gastrointestinal hemorrhage; endoscopic clipping and argon plasma coagulation received only the briefest mention in passing. Although sclerotherapy and banding are both mentioned as an intervention for esophageal varices, the significant disadvantages of the former are not elaborated upon, and no mention is made of gastric varices and the unique approach needed. I was disappointed to see that the chapter on celiac disease, although listing the Marsh I lesion in histologic images, emphasized the importance of villous atrophy in making the diagnosis. Whereas duodenal lymphocytosis is certainly lacking in specificity, particularly in pediatric practice, the possibility that this lesion represents gluten intolerance, particularly if serologic testing is positive, should at least be entertained. On the other hand, the chapter on liver disease mentions celiac disease as a possible cause of deranged liver biochemistry, a useful insight that still needs wider dissemination in adult and pediatric practice alike.

These minor issues aside, I am happy to recommend this book for purchase by medical libraries and training units in pediatric gastroenterology where it will serve well as a basic reference guide on the subject for trainees. Its format and size would facilitate its publication in soft cover form to make it more accessible on cost criteria.

**Bottom Line:** This is a well-written, up-to-date illustrated textbook that takes both symptom- and disease-focused approaches to conditions commonly encountered in pediatric gastroenterology. It is useful both as a primer for trainees and as a reference text for physicians in primary and secondary care outside the specialty who encounter pediatric patients in their practice.

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*Colonoscopy: Principles and Practice, 2nd Edition.* Jerome D. Waye, Douglas K. Rex, and Christopher B. Williams, editors. 832 pp. \$369.95. New York, John Wiley & Sons, 2009. ISBN: 978-1-4051-7599-9. Web site for ordering: [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com).

Doctors Waye, Rex, and Williams have hit it out of the park again in the second edition of their book *Colonoscopy: Principles and Practice*, published in 2009. The first edition, pub-