Reviews

Examination of the Newborn: An Evidence-Based Guide (2nd edition)

This practical evidence-based guide on neonatal examination has been updated to include the latest guidelines from the Nursing and Midwifery Council as well as national screening guidelines as endorsed by the UK screening committee.

It is a comprehensive and practical guide that supports the development of competence. Topics including history taking, examination of the skin, head and neck, as well as chromosome, genetic and behavioural concepts are presented in a logical, informative and professional style.

Lavishly illustrated colour plates and diagrams serve to aid understanding of what can be complicated and complex concerns. Additionally, the use of diagrams, flow charts and case studies highlight and guide best practice.

Accompanied by a web link that includes interactive multiple-choice questions, videos and a step-by-step guide to the newborn examination, this is an interactive book that should be available for all front line staff in neonatal and midwifery units.

This is an excellent text that supports the changing professional boundaries and is an ideal companion to those who undertake this extended role. It will also be an invaluable aid to students and advanced practitioners as well as those involved in neonatal and midwifery care in a hospital or a community setting.


Reviewed by Valerie McGurk, practice development nurse, paediatrics department, Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust

Working in Public Health: An Introduction to Careers in Public Health

For those considering a career in public health, this book offers a comprehensive overview of public health organisations in England.

The chapter on global public health is particularly interesting and informative as are the personal accounts and case studies from highly-experienced practitioners, specialists as well as those new to their roles.

The book also seeks to raise awareness on jobs in the public health workforce in the UK and internationally that improve health and reduce inequalities through case studies and personal accounts.

This book is primarily directed at those pursuing careers in public health such as a public health practitioner in a local authority or as a specialist via the faculty of public health route.

It offers insufficient specific information to community public health nurses who deliver face-to-face interventions and address health inequalities on a daily basis.

Greater awareness of the role, capabilities and academic background of nurses working in public health practice would make this a more useful and inspiring read.


Reviewed by Louise Condon, associate professor, Swansea University

The Back: Anatomy for Problem Solving in Sports Medicine

Back pain is one of the most common reasons for a person to seek healthcare advice and the second most common reason for sick leave.

This easy-to-read, practical book offers a review of the normal and pathoanatomy of the back. Topics cover movements of the head, spinal cord and curvatures.

While the authors explain the various pathologies, they do not subclassify them into injuries requiring intervention or not, nor do they discuss treatment modalities for any of the injuries. Foundational anatomy is also not included.

A criticism is that the content does not demonstrate a logical progression, and perhaps would have benefited from being organised along spinal regions. There is scant mention of the sacroiliac joint, which is a source of pain in the lower back and buttocks.

One of the greatest attributes of the book are the graphics, although they are poorly labelled. The authors who consist of an anatomist and a sports physiotherapist have combined their knowledge and provided detailed diagnostic imaging scans, anatomical models and illustrations to demonstrate the normal and pathoanatomy.

This will serve as a handy reference guide for sports medicine students, emergency department clinicians and any clinician with an interest in sports medicine. However, it assumes prior knowledge and would not suit undergraduate learners.

It will be a valuable companion to a more comprehensive text, suitable for students preparing for objective structured clinical examinations.

Philip F Harris and Craig Ranson | M&K Publishing | 76pp | £29 | ISBN: 9781905539529

Reviewed by Lynda Gibbons and Martin Duignan, registered advanced nurse practitioners, emergency department, Our Lady’s Hospital, Navan, Meath, Ireland

Key
Excellent ★★★★★ Very good ★★★★★ Good ★★★★ Average ★★★ Poor ★★