

Book and Media Reviews

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Publishers who wish to submit books for possible inclusion in *Family Medicine's* book reviews section should send texts to Cathleen Morrow, MD, *Family Medicine* book reviews editor, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Department of Community and Family Medicine, HB 7015, 1 Medical Center Drive, Lebanon, NH 03756. cathleen.morrow@dartmouth.edu. Reviewers interested in writing reviews for publication should contact Dr Morrow as well.

All books reviewed in this column are available for purchase at amazon.com through the STFM portal at www.stfm.org/bookstore.

The 5-Minute Clinical Consult 2010, Frank J. Domino, Robert A. Baldor, Jeremy Golding, Jill A. Grimes, Julie S. Taylor, eds, Philadelphia, Lippencott, Williams & Wilkins, 2009, 1,536 pp., \$99.95, hardcover.

For the past 3 months, we have been using *The 5-Minute Clinical Consult* in our residency program in San Paulo, Brazil. It has proved to be a useful book in clinical learning and teaching. Its major strength is the ease with which one can locate the desired specific disease topic. Once you pick a sought-for diagnosis and find its page in the book, the layout allows you to quickly find options for therapy or alternatives in the differential diagnosis. The information is presented in a simple and easy-to-understand fashion, yet it is complete in relevant knowledge and evidence.

In our experience, other highlights have included the stratification of therapeutic measures, in which a variety of therapeutic protocols (for example, for community-acquired pneumonia) are presented in an organized fashion. We also found the subsection on alternative medicine therapies interesting and useful. In addition, *The 5-Minute*

Clinical Consult features information on the accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity of diagnostic procedures and the differential diagnosis of common conditions such as myocardial infarction and urolithiasis.

Although Brazil has significantly different epidemiologic patterns of disease than the United States, we were pleased that the book also included topics on common infectious diseases such as amebiasis, trichomoniasis, malaria, leishmaniasis, and helminthiasis. It also includes topics on clinical emergencies and psychiatric disorders that have proved very useful in our clinical work here. Though not a problem for readers in the United States, the difficulties we confronted while consulting this book in Brazil were mainly due to differences in treatment protocols, common medications and their names, and the availability of diagnostic procedures.

Nonetheless, *The 5-Minute Clinical Consult* was a terrific addition to our residency library. In a nutshell, it is a great book with proven usefulness and helpful practice-oriented information, whether one is practicing and teaching in the United States or—using a bit of cre-

ativity and one's clinical acumen—anywhere else in the world.

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Dermatology for Skin of Color, A. Paul Kelly, Susan C. Taylor, eds, New York, McGraw-Hill, 2009, 722 pp., \$169, hardcover.

With considerable enthusiasm we received this much anticipated book for review. "Skin of color" is defined as that of "individuals of racial groups with darker skin than Caucasians such as Asians, Africans, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Latinos." The population in the United States has experienced a substantial increase in the number of people of color, and this is directly reflected in the spectrum of dermatological patients. Yet there is a dearth of resources on skin of color, and current dermatological references are often not representative of what physicians currently see and treat. *Dermatology for Skin of Color* attempts to remedy this. It is long overdue.