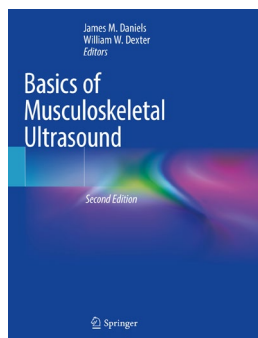


Book shelf

Basics of Musculoskeletal Ultrasound, second edition

Daniels, Dexter

REVIEW INFO



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REVIEW

Book reviewed by Alison Hall, SCoR accredited consultant musculoskeletal sonographer, Keele University, Cannock Chase Hospital.

By definition this book is clearly aimed at the 'beginner practitioner' in musculoskeletal (MSK) ultrasound, although it would also be useful for more experienced ultrasound practitioners wishing to improve their MSK anatomy and ultrasound technique, as this is an update on the original version written over 10 years ago.

The book comprises 18 chapters written by medics, predominantly from the fields of orthopaedics, sport and rheumatology in the USA and, while the early chapter detailing accreditation and certification in MSK ultrasound training is obviously aimed at the American market, there is a lot of useful information in that chapter that is transferable to practitioners worldwide.

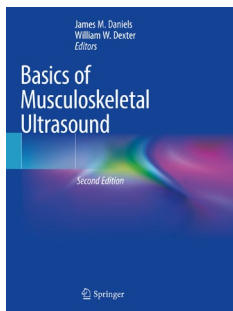
Following on, there are comprehensive, well-written chapters (some of which are often minimal in similar texts) covering the myriad emerging new ultrasound systems and their care, instrumentation, image acquisition, artefacts and the ultrasound appearances of normal tissues.

The next section, chapters 6-14, is more clinically based, covering each area commonly scanned in the upper and lower limb, giving comprehensive examples of anatomy and probe position along with excellent pearls and pitfalls for each area. These are extremely useful for the beginner and the more experienced ultrasound practitioner. Throughout these chapters there is excellent description and imaging of normal joints and soft tissues, with photo-graphs of probe position associated with the most common, and not so common, areas of MSK scanning. However, the layout makes it tricky to read as the probe position and ultrasound image are on different pages, which seems a shame and is hopefully easily rectified.

In addition to this minor irritation, my main concern in these chapters is the
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REVIEW*... review continued*

lack of ultrasound images showing pathology. With the exception of the shoulder, while there are written descriptions of common pathologies of each area, there are no examples of the ultrasound appearances of these pathologies, which is essential for accurate interpretation and subsequent report writing.

To some extent, this is rectified in later chapters; chapter 15, 'Ultrasound guidance of procedures' covers the common conditions appropriate for steroid injection. The sections on evidence for accuracy, efficacy and safety are well written and reflect current opinion, and the general principles on technique are very helpful. Following on are examples of specific guided injections with ultrasound images of specific pathologies and the needle/probe positions. Chapter 16 is an excellent overview of rheumatology ultrasound, which is an area that demands specific technical and clinical considerations in order to detect early disease. There are good images of common pathologies and, again, really helpful hints and tips for the ultrasound practitioner.

Peripheral nerves are addressed in chapter 17 and, while some may see this as a more advanced area of MSK ultrasound, anatomy and technique of nerve scanning is exceptionally well covered in this chapter.

The final chapter is the point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) section which includes sport-related and non-MSK scanning, including arguably the more serious areas of ocular and lung ultrasound, which may be outside the scope of many MSK ultrasound practitioners. Again, there are good images of probe position, etc. While in this chapter there are images of pathology, there are few comparisons with the normal ultrasound appearances, which I would have thought would be very important when interpreting such urgent clinical scenarios. That said, this is a very comprehensive overview of a POCUS service.

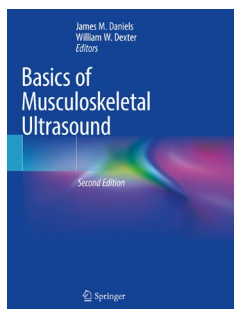
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In summary, this is a really useful update of a popular MSK ultrasound textbook for a wide range of practitioners. The inclusion of information around training and accreditation is welcome and, while some chapters may be out of the scope of some individuals, they provide good insight into these more specialised areas of MSK ultrasound.

Declaration of interest: Alison Hall is co-editor of Musculoskeletal Ultrasound, How, Why and When, published November 2021.

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