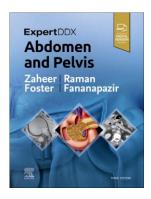
Book shelf

ExpertDDx: Abdomen and Pelvis, third edition

Zaheer, Raman, Foster and Fananapazir

REVIEW INFO



Publisher: Elsevier

ISBN: 978-0-323-87866-1

RRP: £226.99 / ebook £180.99

RAD Magazine price: £181.59 / ebook £117.64*

REVIEW

Book reviewed by Dr Ne Siang Chew, consultant radiologist, Bradford Royal Infirmary.

Comprising 701 pages and 24 sections covering the solid and hollow organs, ovaries, peritoneum and mesentery, with 3,500 beautifully illustrated and annotated images, this book is a highly useful and comprehensive resource for radiologists and trainee radiologists.

Unlike conventional textbooks of the abdomen and pelvis that describe a diagnosis followed by associated imaging findings, this invaluable resource offers lists of possible radio-diagnoses (common, uncommon to rare but important) based on imaging observations and how to narrow them down in a methodological manner. Text and explanations, while concise, do delve into helpful imaging and clinical clues to help clinch a final diagnosis. Together with clear, beautifully annotated images including fluoroscopy, ultrasound, CT including 3D reformats and MRI, the book helps the reader increase their confidence in making a diagnosis.

Given that the book is meant to help the reporting radiologist provide a good, accurate report, I decided to put it to the test. In one day-to-day case, I was presented with a middle-aged female patient with retroperitoneal mass with no other signs of malignancy on their CT chest, abdomen and pelvis. Utilising the book, I was guided to firstly determine the source and location of the mass, whether arising from a retroperitoneal organ. I decided it was not, and the algorithm led me to the next point, which was the fact that most enlarged retro-peritoneal masses are malignant, for which the differentials were lymphoma versus metastases versus primary sarcoma. Other differentials include infection (eg mycobacterial infection). The pattern of enhancement of the mass was solid. Quite usefully, the book quantified that lymphomas tend to be solid and homogeneously enhancing masses whereas metastases and sarcomas are more commonly heterogeneous (likely relating to presence of necrosis). In this case, the text led me to a primary differential

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review continues ...

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of lymphoma (and less likely differentials of infection and metastases), as later verified in our local haematology-radiology multidisciplinary meeting.

There are only minor negatives to owning this book: the price of £226.99 is rather expensive but does include online content. Secondly, in my opinion, this book is not a standalone resource. While a handy tool for daily conundrums in radiology, one must be cognisant that providing long regurgitated lists of possible diagnoses from a differential diagnosis compendium is not the diagnostic radiologist's main aim. For this, the radiologist must be familiar with various radio-diagnoses, from clinical presentation and pathogenesis to management and treatment. This can only be achieved by reading textbooks and I would therefore suggest that ExpertDDx: Abdomen and Pelvis is used in conjunction with a textbook.

Overall, I thoroughly recommend this book to radiologists and trainee radiologists. From the point of view of radiologists, I feel that this book would come in handy most in the acute/emergency abdominal and pelvis radiology reporting sessions.

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