

Managing the Older Adult Patient with HIV

Edited by Giovanni Guaraldi, Julian Falutz, Chiara Mussi, Ana Rita Silva
Springer 2016

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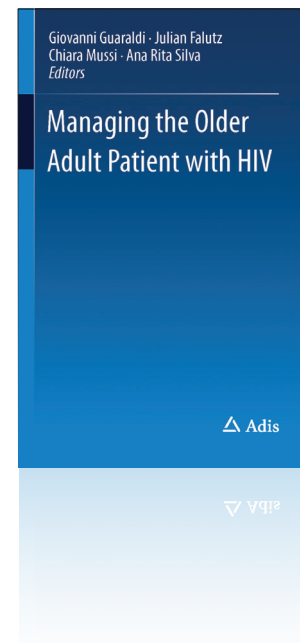
Effective treatment has dramatically improved the life expectancy of people living with HIV infection. Frailty and comorbidities such as cardiovascular disease, renal and neurocognitive impairment are increasingly common manifestations of ageing in HIV-positive populations. Care for older HIV patients is evolving to include screening, management and prevention of these conditions.

Guaraldi and colleagues have produced a concise review of ageing and HIV infection. The book contains a useful section on the epidemiology of multimorbidity and discussions of frailty and other geriatric syndromes. The challenges of acquisition, transmission and diagnosis of HIV infection

in the elderly are appropriately highlighted. The section on non-AIDS comorbidities is short with no reference to liver disease.

The section on antiretroviral therapy is somewhat focused on regimens with inferior efficacy or limited efficacy data. It might have benefitted from discussion of the use of conventional combinations in older people, or the threshold for switching antiretroviral regimens in patients who develop renal impairment. The work appropriately concludes with sections on smoking cessation, physical exercise and nutrition and self-management.

The focus of HIV care is shifting from immunodeficiency and opportunistic infections to age-related comorbidities. This informative resource allows practitioners in the field of HIV infection to familiarize themselves with current thinking in this area.
Frank Post, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, London



Drugs in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care (5th edn)

Edward Scarth and Susan Smith
Oxford University Press 2016

Price £34.99. Pp 448
ISBN 978 0 19876 881 4

Fifteen years after its first publication, *Drugs in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care* returns in its fifth edition. Encompassing 184 drugs which are encountered on a daily basis in the intensive care and theatre environment, this peer-reviewed book provides a comprehensive reference guide for practising anaesthetists of all grades.

The concise summaries of drugs are organized in alphabetical order and presented in an identical format, thus providing a rapidly accessible, easy-to-read reference guide. In addition, the authors suggest that this arrangement introduces potential FRCA and FFICM exam candidates to an ordered structure for presentation of pharmacological information.

Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic information is included for each drug, and this is laid out in a succinct bullet-point style to

once again deliver clarity to the reader. Drug doses are detailed as per the manufacturers' recommended dose ranges (in addition to alternative clinical uses), and this provides lucidity given that these values vary considerably between different medical texts.

The 'Special points' heading is a particularly useful inclusion, since it encompasses details of significant drug interactions and specific drug-related points relevant to the practice of anaesthesia. When compared to the fourth edition, this version not only contains a complete revision of all the featured drugs, with the addition of key new drugs and the removal of obsolete drugs, but also includes new drug comparison tables and drug structure diagrams which simplify the comparison of distinctions within a drug class.

Also available in 'app' format, if you are looking for an up-to-date, concise yet comprehensive reference text to keep yourself well informed about relevant pharmacology, then *Drugs in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care* is certainly a worthy choice.
Ned Gilbert-Kawai, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow

Stroke Medicine: Case Studies from Queen Square

Edited by SK Gill, MM Brown, F Robertson, N Losseff
Springer 2015

Price £53.99. Pp 270
ISBN 978 1 4471 6704 4

This book contains 40 very interesting stroke cases, covering common and rarer aetiologies of stroke, each with a varied presentation and unique learning points.

Each case is divided into subsections including presentation, investigations, radiology and management. Each chapter has a useful summary box which contains key radiological and clinical learning points. The book provides a valuable insight into the thought process involved in practising evidence-based medicine, which may not be available in other books, particularly for the grey cases or clinical conundrums. It is well written and enjoyable to read.

I would recommend it to any health professional interested in stroke, including medical students, junior doctors, registrars, consultants, GPs, therapists and specialist stroke nurses.
Sam Dahdaleh, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, London