

Oxford Handbook of Geriatric Medicine (3rd edn)

**Lesley K Bowker, James D Price,
Kunal S Shah, Sarah C Smith**
Oxford University Press 2018
Price £34.99. Pp 752
ISBN 9780198738381

The third edition of the *Oxford Handbook of Geriatric Medicine* will be a useful tool for students and junior doctors rotating through elderly medicine departments, as well as allied health-care professionals regularly looking after older people.

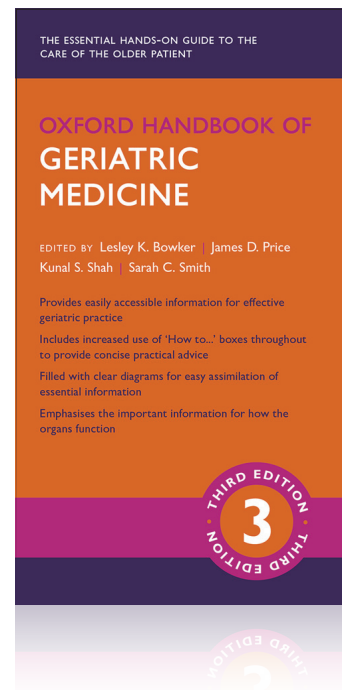
Multiple organ system-based chapters cover acute presentations in the elderly, including an excellent section on 'homeostasis' which covers sodium abnormalities in straightforward, practical detail. Perhaps more use to junior doctors are chapters on topics that are more specific to this population such as falls, stroke, pressure injuries, incontinence and rehabilitation.

There is a new chapter on perioperative medicine and managing the older surgical

patient, and updated information about managing stroke and transient ischaemic attacks based on recent research evidence. Reflecting the holistic nature of geriatric medicine there is helpful information about non-clinical topics such as navigating the world of social care, benefit entitlement and funding, Palliative care management and prescribing at the end of life, as well as an overview of ethical principles and relevant legislation are covered particularly well.

The handbook is packed with clinical tips and case examples to help put knowledge into practice. The appendices contain copies of useful assessment scales, such as the Confusion Assessment Method, to be used in the clinical setting. Overall this comprehensive handbook is well worth the investment and lends itself to being used in day-to-day clinical practice.

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Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures in Gastroenterology: An Illustrated Guide (2nd edn)

**Edited by Subbaramiah Sridhar,
George Y Wu**
Springer 2018
Price £114.00. Pp 691
ISBN 978 3 319 62991 9

The second edition of this manual provides an overview of commonly used procedures in gastroenterology. The main focus is on endoscopic procedures and techniques.

The manual comprises three sections – part one: procedures and devices forms the bulk of the manual. Following a historical review, a comprehensive review of current endoscopic techniques and instruments is then given, including emerging techniques such as confocal laser endomicroscopy.

Part two covers the running of an endoscopy department, and part three looks at training and evaluation.

There are typographical errors in the text but overall this is a well-written manual. Each chapter is well-referenced. One strength is the large number of images. The chapters on anticoagulation in endoscopy and performing endoscopic

procedures in surgically altered anatomy are particularly useful. The volume also covers techniques which are infrequently encountered other than in tertiary care, e.g. management of pancreatic pseudocysts.

The book covers a wide variety of topics, so sometimes lacks the depth of explanation required for a more experienced endoscopist. However, it will be valuable for gastroenterology trainees (particularly in preparation for speciality exit exams), non-medical endoscopists and endoscopy units.
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Handbook of Sepsis

**Edited by Joost W Wiersinga,
Christopher W Seymour**
Springer 2018
Price £79.00. Pp 267
ISBN 978 3 319 73505 4

Encompassing 16 chapters and 267 pages, the *Handbook of Sepsis* provides an up-to-date overview of the enigmatic clinical syndrome of sepsis. The chapters cover not only an overview of sepsis, but also its pathogenesis, management, and what the future holds.

Upon reading the book, the complexity of the subject becomes alarmingly

apparent, as too does the sheer number of diverse treatment vogues that have been trialled over the years. Usefully, however, the authors provide summaries of many of those relating to the management of sepsis (including those relevant to fluid resuscitation, vasopressor therapy, response to multi-organ failure, and antimicrobial therapy), allowing the reader to understand not only where we are at present, but also what the evidence suggests we should, or should not, be doing for the treatment of our septic patients here and now. This information is reinforced by clearly presented international clinical practice guidelines on the management of sepsis.

Asides from the text itself, clearly labelled colour diagrams and figures aid the process of learning, and well-defined tables are also interspersed throughout the book which can be referred to independently, without interrupting the flow of the main script.

Given that an estimated 19 million cases of sepsis are encountered globally each year, up-to-date knowledge of the subject and its management should be a requisite for all medical professionals. This book provides a swift read to enable just that.

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