
Book Review

Fundamentals of Geriatric Medicine: A Case-Based Approach, edited by Rainier P. Soriano, 624 pp, with illus, \$49.95, New York, NY, Springer (telephone: 800-777-4643), 2007, ISBN 0-387-32324-4

Type and Scope of Book: This is a practical educational companion to the fourth edition of *Geriatric Medicine: An Evidence-Based Approach*, by Christine K. Cassel et al (2003). The case-based instructional approach is designed to teach a method for dissecting the complexity of disease prevention, presentation, and treatment in older adults.

Contents: Each of the 32 chapters has learning objectives, numerous summary tables, a bulleted chapter summary, cross references to its companion reference text, an annotated suggested reading list, and an extensive bibliography. General topic areas include geriatric assessment, pharmacology, prevention, the older surgical patient, geropsychiatry, classic geriatric syndromes, exercise and nutrition, common diseases of the elderly, psychosocial and medico-legal issues of late life, health care financing, and palliative care. Epidemiology, age-related pathophysiology, atypical presentations, and evaluation and management strategies are selectively highlighted to match chapter learning goals.

Strengths: The layout is easy to read and concise. The practical learning objectives and chapter summary principles aid learner focus. The unfolding cases highlight key concepts, encourage critical thinking, and promote learning and retention.

Deficiencies: This is not meant to be a comprehensive, authoritative text, and therefore it is not a sufficient read for geriatric fellows and geriatric specialists. Its parent text is better suited for this group.

Recommended Readership: This is an excellent text for medical students and residents completing a rotation in geriatric medicine. Primary care physicians with limited training in geriatrics will also find this book to be of great value.

Overall Grading: ★★★★★

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Grading Key

★★★★★ = outstanding; ★★★★ = excellent; ★★★ = good; ★★ = fair; ★ = poor.



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Fundamentals of Geriatric Medicine

A Case-Based Approach

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