

Preface

The first chest radiography was obtained more than 100 years ago. Despite Computed Tomography (CT) revolutionizing diagnostic thoracic imaging 30 years ago, chest radiography still remains one of the most performed imaging modality in radiology worldwide, due to low costs, low radiation and wide availability. Chest radiographs are obtained for detection, diagnosis and follow-up of many forms of thoracic diseases, evaluation of chest trauma, and many other conditions including screening purposes.

Its interpretation is notoriously difficult and needs to receive a careful attention for teaching and learning. With the advent of multi-slice CT scanners (MDCT) enabling isotropic reconstructions and high-quality reformats, new tools are available for both radiologists and clinicians for re-interpreting chest radiographs in light of orthogonal views or additional planes.

The concept of this book was imagined in 2008, just after a successful symposium dedicated to a “side-by-side comparison with MDCT” that we held in Brussels. The idea was to provide a comprehensive approach of chest diseases using a direct comparison between the old two-dimensional technology and the up-to-date three-dimensional technology of MDCT. In collaboration with Belgian and international experts in chest radiology, we have elaborated the content of this book on three different parts. The first part summarizes clinical indications and technical aspects of chest radiography and CT with emphasis on reconstructions and tools for image comparison. The second part is related to the semeiology of normal variants and diseased chest using an anatomically based classification. The third part deals with some diseases presenting a peculiar aspect on chest radiography.

This book is designed for radiologists, internists, pneumologists, surgeons and acute unit physicians involved in the care of patients with chest diseases, and students who want to improve their understanding in chest radiography. At the end of this book, a link to a web site containing additional clinical cases is available for the most curious readers.

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Radiography of the Chest

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