Book Review

Clinical Examination Methods in Orthopedics
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This book titled “Clinical Examination Methods in Orthopedics” is a concise and informative handbook on methods of clinical examination which provides an integrated and structured approach. It will be of great help to budding medical and post-graduate students studying Orthopedics. It is available as an adjunct to the “Textbook of Orthopedics” written by the same author.

The main advantage of this handbook is that it is useful for quick reference while examining patients at the outdoor clinic. Students new to clinical examination are often confused about the chronological order in which to perform their procedures. This book introduces them to an organized system and would help post-graduate students build their own individual protocol of examination. Its small size allows it to fit easily in a student’s apron pocket, hence making it very handy.

This book helps the reader to anticipate the presenting history associated with joint pathologies and diagnose the related problems. As the age old adage goes “the eyes do not see what the mind does not know”, but after reading this book the mind is well prepared prior to the reader’s exposure to the patient.

Several highlighted tables containing important facts that are essential to remember and snippets for revision of the chapter contents are presented, so the individual chapters can be reviewed at a glance. The illustrations are simple, presented with explanations which are easy to comprehend and analyze. References to detailed descriptions of common joint disorders, which are available in the textbook, are given along with page numbers which builds a connecting bridge between the practical and theoretical aspects of diseases and saves time.

I would recommend this book to students and think that it would help increase their knowledge and answer their queries on clinical examination in Orthopedics. There is however some room for improvement. It would have been of greater use if more joints had been included. The examination methods of the hand, foot and ankle have been omitted. Probably the author will include these in his forthcoming edition.

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