

AN ATLAS OF TWO-DIMENSIONAL AND DOPPLER ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

by B L Chia
PG Publishing, 1990

Professor Chia Boon Lock is to be congratulated for writing a well-illustrated atlas on two-dimensional and Doppler echocardiography. This book is an excellent presentation of the state of art of echocardiography and reflects the author's vast experience and expertise in the subject. It will contribute greatly to the understanding, appreciation and growth of this very important cardiac investigation in this region and abroad.

The eleven chapters are well written, easy to read and summarize succinctly the basic concepts as well as the latest developments in the technique. There are 95 case studies (20 involving Doppler colour flow imaging) which, as was stated in the preface of the book, "illustrate the whole spectrum of cardiovascular abnormalities - from the simplest to the most complex ..." All the case studies are interesting, clearly documented, educational and relevant to the care of patients with cardiovascular disease. However, a few such as Lutembacher's syndrome, right atrial metastatic tumour in hepatic carcinoma and massive vegetation in the pulmonary artery in right-sided infective endocarditis, are particularly noteworthy because of

their rare occurrence and the spectacular echocardiographic abnormalities. The greatest strength of this atlas is the outstanding quality of the echocardiographic illustrations, consisting of 295 black and white and 66 coloured plates. These illustrations are superior to those seen in the great majority of previous publications by expert echocardiographers around the world. Perhaps, the only criticism one may find (apart from the usual few grammatical errors which are seen in nearly all textbooks) is that for a book which has been titled "An atlas of two-dimensional and Doppler echocardiography", there are too many M-mode echocardiographic illustrations, numbering altogether 37.

This atlas is strongly recommended for all practising cardiologists, cardiology trainees, technical personnel performing the procedure and all doctors who are interested in cardiology and echocardiography. I would not however recommend it for medical students.

Dr Leslie Lam

HANDBOOK OF NEUROANATOMY

by C K Tan, W C Wong
PG Publishing, 1990

Neuroanatomy is a difficult subject to most medical students. It is difficult to understand regional neuroanatomy without knowledge of the connections and organization of the nervous system. It is equally difficult to learn about the connections within the central nervous system without prior knowledge of regional neuroanatomy. Where does one start?

The authors of this book try to steer the medical student through the "neurological jungle of pathways, tracts and connections" in a question and answer approach. By keeping to

the basics, they have succeeded in presenting the basic concepts of neuroanatomy in a concise way, allowing the student to quickly get an overall view of the anatomy of the nervous system.

The text, which is addressed to the student as if he is attending a tutorial, is clearly written and well illustrated. This book is recommended to all medical students.

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