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Book Reviews: Technical Books Section

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FEATURED BOOK : MAIN PAGE



AN EXCELLENT ADDITION TO FORENSIC LITERATURE

Clinical Forensic Medicine - A Physician's Guide, 2nd Edition, *Edited by* Margaret M. Stark. Hard Bound, 6" x 9". [Includes eBook/PDA on CD-ROM]. Foreword by Sir John Stevens, former Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service, London, UK
Humana Press Inc., 999 Riverview Drive, Suite 208, Totowa, New Jersey 07512; Publication Date: 11 April 2005. xvii + 438 pages, ISBN 1-58829-368-8, E-ISBN 1-59259-913-3. List price US $99.50 (10% discount with online order).

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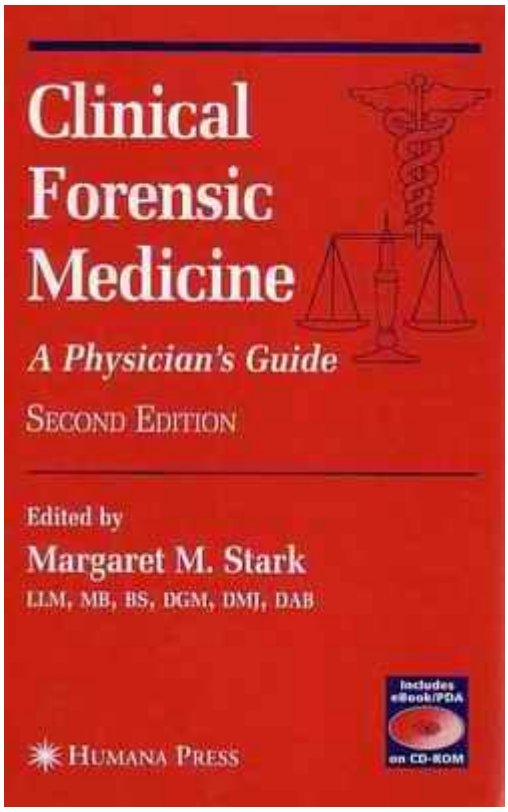

We keep receiving books for review from various publishers. However some books are of such paramount importance that we at the journal office thought one review may not be able to do justice to that book. One opinion may be slanted, perhaps by the individual tastes and preferences of the reviewer. Reviewers from different continents, nations, even different parts of the same nation may perceive a book differently. Why not send books to two or more different reviewers and get their opinion. We requested several publishers to do that and they obliged.

From Volume 3, Number 1, January - June 2002, we started reviews of certains books of paramount importance as "featured books". The first book to be featured on our journal was Ecotoxicology: The Study of Pollutants in Ecosystems by F. Moriarty (Published by Academic Press). Review of that book, as well as the combined index of reviews of all featured books can be accessed by clicking here. We have so far featured ***twenty five*** *books including the current one. The response of the readers has been overwhelming. They seem to have liked this new genre, and they want more reviews in this format. This is the second book we are featuring in this issue (Vol 7, No 2). To see all books which have been featured in this journal so far, readers may want to the linked page (featured 001).*

This time we received a very good book A Physician's Guide to Clinical Forensic Medicine (2nd edition) edited by a doyen of forensic medicine, Dr. Margaret M. Stark of UK. We had already featured the first edition of this book in Volume 3, Number 2 (July - December 2002) of our journal. (We also interviewed Dr. Stark in that issue). Interestingly there is a little difference in the names of two editions - a fact which is not readily noticeable to all. While the first edition was titled "A Physician's Guide to Clinical Forensic Medicine", the second edition is called "Clinical Forensic Medicine - A Physician's Guide".

The first edition of this book was reviewed in this journal by Dr. Gyan Fernando of UK and Dr. Bryan Chrz of USA. So this time we opted for other reviewers from several other parts of the world. After long deliberations, we sent this book to ten different reviewers spanning 5 continents and 6 countries. The reviewers were: (i) Patrick Igbigbi - Nigeria (Africa) (ii) BD Gupta - India (Asia) (iii) Srijit Das - India (Asia) (iv) Rakesh Gorea - India (Asia) (v) Teo Eng Swee - Singapore (Asia) (vi) George Paul -

Singapore (Asia) (vii) Ronald Wright - US (America, North) (viii) Adriana Oliva - Argentina (America, South) (ix) Jenny Ball - Australia (Australasia) and (x) John Gall - Australia (Australasia)

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The reviewers were requested not only to send us detailed reviews, but also to rate this book on a scale of ten. The following rating scale was provided to the reviewers.

0: Waste of time
1: Of minimal interest
2: Of little interest
3: Of some interest
4: Slightly below average
5: Average
6: Slightly above average
7: Good
8: Very Good
9: Excellent
10: Truly Outstanding

By and large, all reviewers rated the book above 8. Here is a detailed break-up of our reviewers and the ratings they gave this book.

Continent	Name	Country	Email	Rating
Africa (1)	**Patrick Igbigbi**	**Nigeria**	**pigbigbi@yahoo.com**	**7.5**
Asia (5)	**BD Gupta**	**India**	**bdgujn@yahoo.com**	**9.0**
	Srijit Das	**India**	**drsrijit@yahoo.com**	**9.0**
	RK Gorea	**India**	**gorea_r@yahoo.com**	**8.0**
	Teo Eng Swee	**Singapore**	**TEO_Eng_Swee@hsa.gov.sg**	**9.0**
	George Paul	**Singapore**	**George_PAUL@hsa.gov.sg**	**8.0**
America, North (1)	**Ronald Wright**	**US**	**rkw@rkwrightmd.com**	**10.0**
America, South (1)	**Adriana Oliva (F)**	**Argentina**	**aoliva@macn.gov.ar**	**8.0**
Australasia(2)	**Jenny Ball (F)**	**Australia**	**sweeball@iinet.net.au**	**9.0**
	John Gall	**Australia**	**johngall@bigpond.com**	**10.0**

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