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Book Reviews: Technical Books Section

(Page 4 b - Review by Prof. BD Gupta, India)

FEATURED BOOK

SHOULD BE THERE ON THE TABLE OF ALL THOSE WHO WORK AS FORENSIC PHYSICIANS



Rating : 9.0
★★★★★★★★★
(9/5)

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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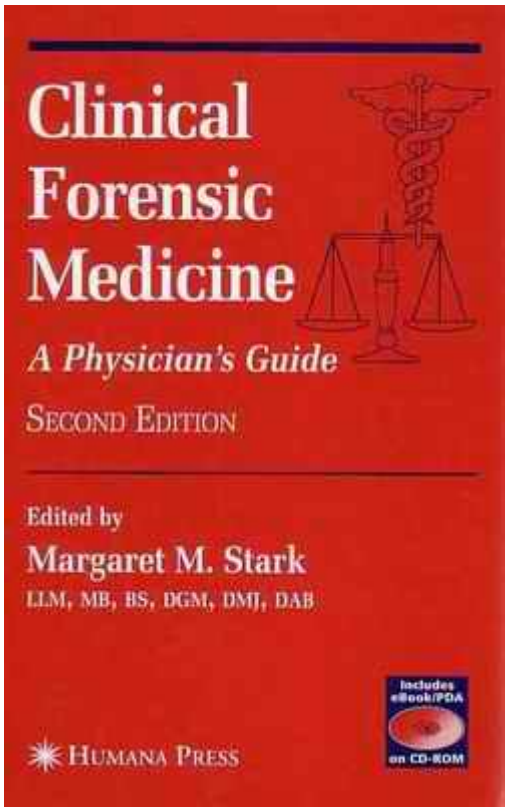

This highly informative book edited by Stark contains twelve chapters and multiple appendices. The chapters are written by qualified and competent workers in respective fields. The book suits to its name viz a Physician's 'guide' to Clinical Forensic Medicine. Most of the topics relevant to forensic physician are available at one place. They are written meticulously. Most of the topics serve dual purpose of a text as well as of protocol to be followed while dealing with such cases in practice.

As mentioned in the preface to the second edition the book wisely includes upcoming problems in clinical forensic medicine like substance misuse, traffic medicine, custody deaths and role of forensic physician while dealing with detainees, victims and assailants of various crimes and infectious diseases.

Paragraph and point wise narration makes the text easily accessible. Text is ably supported by tables.

Though the book serves the dual purpose, still there is good scope of improvement as far as inclusion of photographs is rather concerned particularly in the chapters of sexual assault examination (chapter 3), injury assessment, documentation and interpretation (chapter 4) and non-accidental injuries in children (chapter 5).

There are few spelling mistakes in the book. The one in running title 'Fundamental Principals' pricks the most.

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Though laws, Acts and rules are different in different countries there is no doubt the fundamental principles discussed in the book on various issues shall be helpful to all those who deal with such cases world over.

All in all it is a good timely revised, still short book which should be there on the table of all those who work as forensic physicians.

-Professor B.D. Gupta



-Dr. B.D. Gupta
Dr. B.D. Gupta is professor and Head of Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology at the M.P.Shah Medical College, Jamnagar, India. He is a veteran reviewer and has been associated with this journal since its inception. He can be contacted at bdgujn@yahoo.com

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