about the practicalities of treatment' through the provision of 'easily digested and clear advice on emergencies'. The authors have drawn the content from their own experience in medical, surgical and general practice. The target population for this book includes medical students, foundation trainees, emergency nurse practitioners and pre-hospital personnel.

The layout is very logical with each chapter focusing on a particular specialty. The topics included are those most likely to be encountered during a routine week in the accident and emergency department. Within each chapter each subsection is divided into clinical features, aetiology and management with an accompanying list of references for further reading. This format is virtually uniform throughout the book, which makes it very helpful to the pre-examination candidate in search of a structured system of learning. However, this format has been deviated from in the few surgical sections and, at an initial glance, appears a little wordy. Nevertheless, closer reading reveals valuable and relevant information conforming to the objectives of the book.

In the context of aetiology of the conditions included there is a focus on the most common factors rather than comprehensive lists and this is appropriate for the target reader. A very pleasing component in most chapters is the inclusion of algorithmic strategies of management based on the current evidence base. This is particularly applicable to the foundation trainee and junior accident and emergency doctor. The use of clear and relevant diagrams, mnemonics and validated scoring systems also makes this book a useful aid to candidates preparing for higher examinations.

In the context of practical treatment, it would have been helpful to see more details on the precise techniques of skills such as catheterisation and chest-drain insertion, which medical students are expected to have an understanding of in the OSCE examination setting. Description of medical management and stabilisation of patients is excellent in this book, with helpful suggestions of appropriate medications to use. The bullet-pointed format of the treatment sections is delineated in a logical fashion, making them directly applicable to the clinical scenario.

Comparing this book to other revision aids for final-year students, the strengths include its logical structure, clarity of presentation and breadth of specialties covered. With its content taking account of only the most common conditions, it helps to focus the final-year student on the reality of day-to-day practice instead of the frequent fascination with the rare and bizarre. The main weakness in comparison to other similar-style books such as the Sprigings and Chambers book on *Acute Medicine* and the *Oxford Handbook of Acute Medicine* is that it lacks the essential knowledge of detailed practical procedures that both final-year medical students and foundation trainees need to manage the emergency scenario effectively. I do, however, feel

that it is a very useful adjunct to revision for the final-year student preparing for a *viva voce* style OSCE examination.

Orthopedic Traumatology – A Resident's Guide

IP DAVID

EXTENT P/H	571 p, paperback
PRICE/ISBN	£30.50 3540290656
PUBLISHER	Springer (Berlin), 2006
REVIEWER	Bill Ryan
STAR RATING	***

According to Dr Ip's preface, his book is aimed at doctors in training and, where appropriate, paramedical staff who regularly deal with trauma victims. With relevance to the UK, this will mainly mean FY2, ST1 and ST2 doctors. It has forewords and is essentially endorsed by two eminent trauma professors, namely Charles Court-Brown from Edinburgh and John Wedge from Toronto.

The book is divided into 12 chapters discussing important areas of trauma management. It is written in the style of a thesis, with nearly every paragraph numbered and subdivided so that a detailed index is given at the beginning of each chapter. I felt that this division for a textbook was too detailed as the point of an index at the start of a chapter is to give an at-a-glance guide to what is in it. This was not possible here as some chapter indices are many pages long. The main index at the end of the book is in a standard format and is accurate. Most topics are easy to find using the index. However, some are mentioned on many different pages and it is not clear in the index where the main narrative is located. For example, compartment syndrome has 16 entries, none of which are highlighted for ease of access.

Each topic is presented in bullet-point format with any necessary subdivisions and the topics covered are accurate and current. Some of the basics like requesting appropriate radiographs, the management of major trauma and the principles of fracture fixation are described well. The current issues in fracture management and the ideas put forward are clearly contemporary and, overall, the material covered is relevant with no serious omissions.

Illustrations are lacking in number and do not always appear close to the relevant text. I felt some of the text used was difficult to understand and a single diagram with a few words would have got the message across. On occasion, I felt the illustrations were not the best examples to go with the text. For example, in the section on periprosthetic fractures in the lower limb, major osteolysis around a complex knee implant is shown. A simpler example of, say, a fracture adjacent to a total knee prosthesis, which is seen much more commonly would have illustrated the point better.

Compared with the competition designed for residents or similar grades, I thought that although this book was pocket-sized and to the point, it was neither detailed enough to cover the topic in depth, nor readable enough for revision purposes. It scored well in terms of portability and relevance of topics but was not as easy to read, nor did it have enough good quality illustrations for my liking. Faced with fierce competition from other authors on this subject matter, I felt that a resident or equivalent could do better in terms of a choice of text to acquire.

The Medical Job Interview: Secrets for Success

COLIN MUMFORD

EXTENT P/H	88p, paperback
PRICE/ISBN	£9.95 1405121858
PUBLISHER	Blackwell (Oxford), 2005
REVIEWER	GCS Cousin and Mohammed Sharwesh
STAR RATING	****

This book aims to give a comprehensive and easy-to-read review of the medical job interview. It is intended as a basis for the final-year medical student and junior doctors applying for hospital posts in the UK system. The first section is aimed entirely at explaining to candidates how to get short-listed, including spotting the right job advert, the importance of visiting the relevant hospital before the short-list is announced and the selection criteria.

Chapter three fully explains how short-listed candidates should prepare and present their *curricula vitae*. Chapters four and five by and large address the interview procedure, taking into account specific interview strategies with helpful tips and appropriate interview behaviour for the short-listed candidate to adopt. The following chapter covers, in a logical sequence, the most common interview questions. This is illustrated with a few real-life examples of questions and their answers, which provide a useful resource.

The final section looks at what happens behind the scenes, including interview panel selection criteria. It also provides some advice on contract terms and salary negotiation.

This book is well laid out in a very readable style and contains a wealth of information for anyone who is applying for a hospital position in the UK system. The editor has succeeded in bringing the relevant information together and this is well presented for a text of this size. It will serve as a very useful source of information for all doctors looking for their early hospital jobs and is eminently readable. Most of the general content will be applicable even with the new arrangements for appointment to training posts.

Advanced Endourology: The Complete Clinical Guide

STEPHEN NAKADA, MARGARET PEARLE

EXTENT P/H	376 p, hardback
PRICE/ISBN	£79.50 1588294463
PUBLISHER	Humana (New Jersey), 2005
REVIEWER	Chris Chilton
STAR RATING	****

This book is a small, but weighty, tome; in fact, it weighs two-and-a-half pounds. It is, as the editors describe, a resource guide for all aspects of endourology and especially advanced endourology. It is a multi-authored book written by national and world experts in endourology from the US and Canada. This book, therefore, provides very much an American view of endourology. Each chapter, however, is very well referenced and covers world-wide opinion, which gives an international flavour to the text.

The book itself is divided into six parts: diagnosis and instrumentation, calculus therapy, incisional therapy, ablative therapy, complications of endourology and paediatric minimally invasive surgery. Each chapter is written to the same pattern, starting with the contents, followed by a summary and introduction to the chapter; the text follows with a final conclusion and a comprehensive list of references. Each topic is covered by a structured programme of indications, instrumentation, technique, results, complications, tips and tricks and a final conclusion. This makes the chapters very readable, while the structure makes dipping into it and picking out various techniques and outcomes very easy, which I found particularly useful.

The style of the text is very formal and slightly old-fashioned. Occasionally, the text is a little too long and could be better paragraphed to make it more readable. The illustrations are also slightly old-fashioned, with some of the X-rays and endoscopic views not of the best quality. There are not enough line diagrams or drawings to illustrate the text and because of this, like many textbooks of this sort they tend to date relatively easily.

The book, however, has included with it a DVD that contains 16 separate videos each well produced, demonstrating common, essential and advanced techniques all of which complement the text very well. Learning surgery from a written description is almost impossible without the global picture that live surgery or videos bring. This greatly enhances the whole experience of the book and makes it well worth reading.

The authors say that every urologist should have this book. I am not sure that I would go that far but agree that all departments should have this book. It is helpful and practical both for the everyday urologist and the endourological