Book reviews

Gastric Cancer. Richard M Gore. Series Editor. Rodney H Reznick. Editorial Adviser. ISBN: 978-0-521-51383-8.

Gastric cancer is second only to lung cancer in terms of worldwide cancer deaths. This book sets out the epidemiology and pathology of the disease, and then details the role of endoscopy and double contrast barium in the initial diagnosis, with evaluation of the role of CT, EUS, PET/CT and MRI in the staging and management of the patients diagnosed.

Further chapters detail the surgical and systemic treatment of the disease, and finally there is a chapter on current trends and future opportunities.

All images are state-of-the-art, with sections on virtual gastroscopy, optical coherence tomography and perfusion imaging as a nod to the future directives of imaging. The book also boasts some exquisite fluoroscopic images in homage to the well established role of double contrast fluoroscopy.

The book is well researched, with leaders in the field contributing to each section. It is 209 pages long, and the information is well presented and concise.

As the authors state, gastric cancer remains a common and deadly malignancy. Prevention and early detection offer the best chance of cure. Increased physician awareness is surely part of this process, and this book is an easy-to-read synopsis on the current status of diagnosis, staging and treatment of the disease, with future directives also described.

I would recommend this book to any healthcare professional with an interest in this disease.

S RYAN

Breast Cancer. Edited by Michael Michell. pp. 268, 2010 (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK). ISBN: 978-0-521-51950-2.

This volume is the latest in the series of multidisciplinary monographs on contemporary issues in cancer imaging. Breast cancer is the commonest cancer affecting women worldwide. Over the past 20 years, it has been a high profile health issue in western nations, with regular media coverage and debate over breast cancer screening programmes for this much-feared condition.

This book takes a very multidisciplinary approach to the subject of breast cancer and is a valuable contribution for all those who are involved with this disease. Since Leborne's early work on mammography, diagnostic imaging in breast disease has continued to develop at a rapid pace. In the past 20 years, with the advent of screening and improved techniques such as digital mammography, ultrasound and newer techniques such as MRI, imaging and management of the disease has almost altered beyond recognition.

In this multi-authored text, all aspects of this disease are covered, including epidemiology, pathology and treatment. The chapter on the epidemiology of female breast cancer is a

particularly useful introduction to the risk factors for this condition. A book like this could not ignore the subject of breast screening and this is dealt with succinctly, while still including the relevant statistical information.

Other chapters cover advances in x-ray mammography, breast ultrasound and MRI imaging. Pathological contributions are not given short shrift. Current issues around the pathology of duct carcinoma in situ are discussed and the difficulties involved are made clear. There is an excellent chapter on the radiological assessment of the axilla and also newer techniques, such as positron emission tomography and its role in the assessment of breast cancer. The final chapter covers the advances in the adjuvant treatment of early breast cancer.

Overall, the multidisciplinary discussion of breast cancer is highlighted in this book and everyone involved in the diagnosis and management of these patients would benefit from reading this volume. I found this book extremely useful; it is up-to-date and extensively referenced. It is not solely about diagnostic imaging and, as such, will appeal to all members of the multidisciplinary team involved in looking after patients with this disease.

A K BANERJEE

SBAs for the FRCR 2A. Currie S, Rowbotham E, Karthik S, Wilkinson C. pp. 165, 2010 (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK). £35/\$65 ISBN: 97805211556448.

SBAs for the FRCR 2A is a recent addition to the growing cohort of revision books aimed at the single best answer (SBA) format FRCR 2A exam. The new format FRCR exam was held in autumn 2009; this book aims to provide essential reading for radiology trainees preparing for the six modules of this examination. The authors are four radiology trainees from Leeds and the book contains 360 SBA questions (60 per module), with referenced answers following each module.

The topics are well chosen and the questions are consistently clear and well constructed. Single best answer questions can be particularly difficult to write, but the authors have integrated clinical and radiological findings within each stem and avoid ambiguity in the short clinical vignettes. A range of SBA question are also used (i.e. not simply 'what is the most likely diagnosis?' each time) to challenge the reader's knowledge and reflect the nature of the exam. Each answer is accompanied by a detailed explanation and helpfully (in many cases) explains why the other answers are incorrect. The answers are also referenced, and a wide range of textbooks and journal articles are cited to help the reader to consolidate areas that require more revision.

The main criticism of the book is the number of questions. At 360, *SBAs for the FRCR 2A* contains considerably fewer questions than competing titles and this inevitably leads to relatively less of the curriculum being interrogated. For some trainees, it will also be a