BOOK REVIEW

Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute Ophthalmology Consult

Senior Editors: Joseph I. Maguire, Ann P. Murchison, and Edward Jaeger

Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2012, 760 pages, ISBN: 13:978-1-60831-665-6

Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute Ophthalmology Consult is part of the *5-Minute Clinical Consult* book collection. Previous volumes of the *5-Minute Clinical Consult* series contain titles covering primary care, cardiology, sports medicine, toxicology, urology, infectious diseases, emergency medicine, paediatrics, and orthopaedics. Purchasing *Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute Ophthalmology Consult* provides online access to its complete contents. This allows the physician to access the book at multiple practice sites and at home via computer. The hardcover text is somewhat unique in ophthalmology in that it contains no black-and-white or colour images. However, the online edition contains an image bank with over 400 excellent colour figures.

In the Foreword, Dr. Julia Harris, Ophthalmologist-in-Chief at Wills Eye Institute, states:

“Five minutes worth of advice from a colleague who knows as much about the topic as anyone in the world? What could be better?”

The *Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute Consult in Ophthalmology* provides just that type of targeted, focused advice; a quick curbside consult with an expert from Wills regarding a patient there in your office.”

Over 330 topics are covered in *Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute Consult in Ophthalmology*. The text uses the *5-Minute Clinical Consult* series format in that most topics cover just two pages. Each topic is subdivided into four areas: Basics, Diagnosis, Treatment, and Ongoing Care. At the end of each topic, the appropriate ICD9 (International Classification of Diseases Ninth Revision) code or codes are provided. Many of the topics include references and clinical pearls in a bullet format. Examples of topics covered include blepharitis, acute primary angle closure glaucoma, optic neuritis, infantile esotropia, and age-related macular degeneration. In the topic section, there is

no mention of whether or not a colour image of the topic is included in the online Image Bank. In the hardcover text, the topics are listed in alphabetical order. There are two tables of contents, one alphabetical and the other listed according to the subspecialty area of ophthalmology covered, such as neuro-ophthalmology or retina/vitreous. Over 250 contributors assisted in the writing of the various topics. All the topics were compiled and edited by current or former faculty at Wills Eye Institute.

In *Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute Consult in Ophthalmology*, each of the subspecialty areas have assigned editors. For the neuro-ophthalmology topics, the two editors were Robert Sergott and Peter Savino. Various contributors of neuro-ophthalmology topics include William Cantor, Helen Danesh-Meyer, Rod Foroozan, Saunders Hupp, Edsel Ing, Matthew Kay, Susan Ksiazek, Mark Moster, Sarkis Nazarian, and Scott Uretsky. Of the 330 topics covered in *Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute consult in Ophthalmology*, 39 are in the subspecialty area of neuro-ophthalmology.

Besides the topics covered, there are also 45 diagnostic algorithms included in the book. These are placed directly after the table of contents and are not interspersed throughout the book. In the topic segments, there is no mention whether or not there is a related clinical algorithm. For example, there is a dry eye algorithm that is not mentioned in the dry eye topic segment. In keeping with the *5-Minute Clinical Consult* series format, all the algorithms are displayed on one page.

In the Preface of *Wills Eye Institute 5-Minute Consult in Ophthalmology*, the editors state:

“We hope that this inaugural edition will serve as a primer and valuable resource that informs, validates, and even comforts the ophthalmologist, internist, general practitioner, resident, intern, and emergency room physician in the hustling

pace of daily practice and the night's toughest hours."

I suspect that most physicians outside of ophthalmology will find many of the topics covered in this text overly specialized. This text is very well written, as one would expect from one of the elite eye hospitals in the United States. Its main weaknesses are the lack

of images in the hardcover edition and the absence of a system of cross-referencing the online images and algorithms with the topics covered.

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