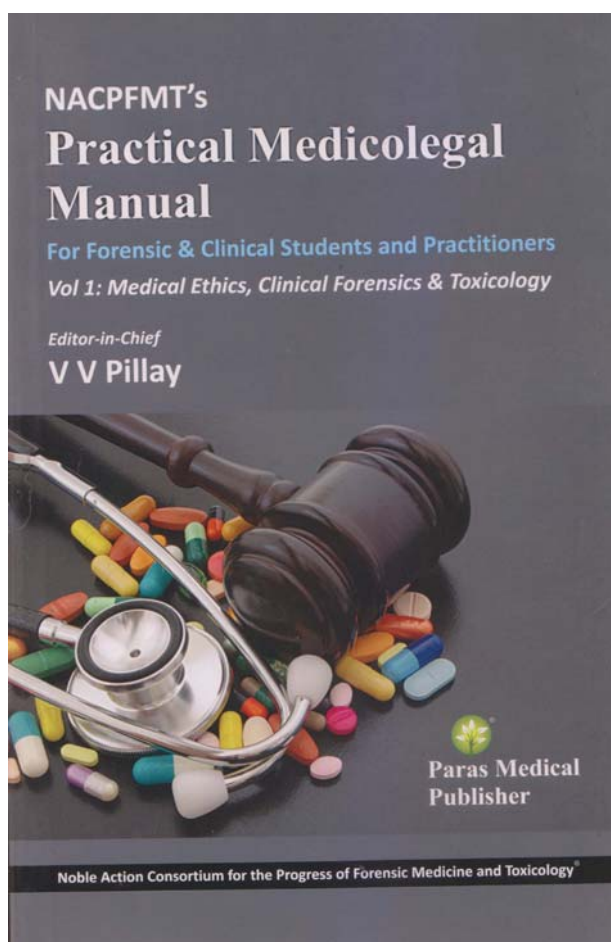


Book Reviews



“NACPFMT's Practical Medicolegal Manual” by Prof V V Pillay, 1st Edition, 2019, Published by Paras Medical Publisher, 5-1-475, First Floor, Putlibowli, Hyderabad 500095, Telangana, India, pp 1-499. 14cm x 21.5cm, Rs550.00.

THE book entitled “Practical Medicolegal Manual” Edited by Prof. V V Pillay is compiled in two volumes. Volume 1 contains chapters on Medical ethics, Clinical forensics and Toxicology. The multi authored handbook aims to guide the basic doctors, non forensic specialists and clinicians during their day to day practice of medicine.

As it is a practical manual hence it is quite obvious that indepth theoretical discussion will not be the priority. Selection of the chapters have been done keeping in mind the needs of clinical practice and the problems faced by the doctors. Basic knowledge about the legal and ethical aspects of medical practice is the need of the hour. The issues

addressed in the chapters of “Gender Sensitization for Doctors”, “Ethics and Law in Relation to LGBT Issues” and “Religious Issues in Medical Practice” are new ideas and deserve special mention.

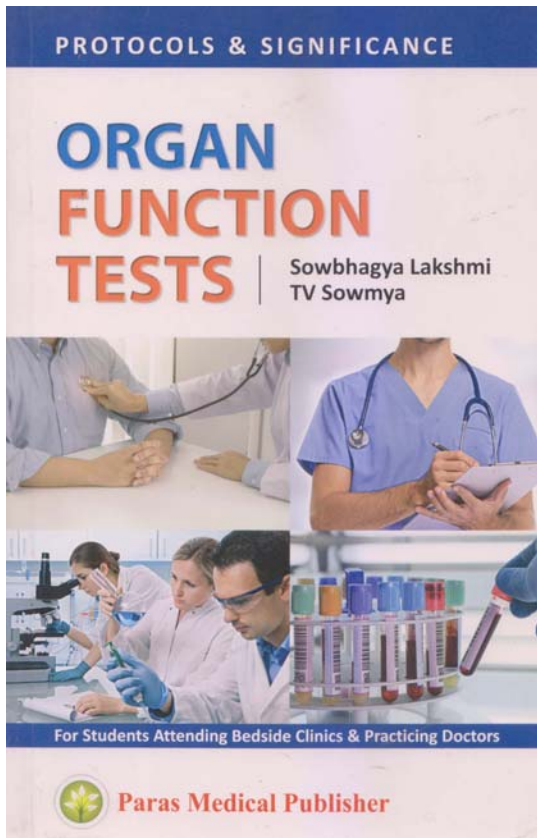
In the Clinical Forensic Medicine section stress has been laid on the practical aspects of dealing with injury, asphyxia deaths and burn cases which is quite justified. However the format for reporting or certification of injuries or wounds projected in the book is an ideal one where as in reality the format varies in different states of the country, especially the ones used by the doctors in the emergency department. However the concepts of injury reporting reflected in the book would be a useful guide for the clinicians. The chapter dealing with “Dead on Arrival” is another innovative idea to present a topic of clinical relevance and is well appreciated.

Section 3 deals with “Medical Toxicology” which is no doubt one of the most important sections of the book. The current patterns of poisoning in the country and their management in acute cases have been dealt nicely. The antidotes of different poisons as listed in this section would be very helpful for the Emergency Medical officers. The chapter on “Basics of Paediatric Toxicology” is another unique idea reflected in the book. The final chapter of the book dealing with “Basics of Analytical Toxicology” is a bit off the track keeping in mind the primary readers of the book. The clinicians and basic doctors managing cases in semi urban and rural areas have limited access to the analytical techniques discussed in this section. None the less it would be beneficial for the postgraduate trainees in Forensic Medicine to enrich their knowledge.

Finally the hard glossy cover of the book with coloured figures and illustrations add to the quality of the book. The font, text size and the flow of language are also soothing for reading.

Overall the book definitely achieved what it intended to present to the readers. There is no spec of doubt that the book would be beneficial and very helpful for the non forensic specialists and fresh graduates to deal effectively with various critical issues in course of their practice. To sum up the authors and the editors efforts are truly worth appreciating.

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"Organ Function Tests" by Sowbhagya Lakshmi, TV Sowmya, 1st Edition, 2019, Published by Paros Medical Publisher, 5-1-475, First Floor, Putlibowli, Hyderabad 500095, Telangana, India, pp 1-275. 14cm x 21.5cm, Rs295.00.

"Organ Function Tests" by Sowbhagya Lakshmi, TV Sowmya is of great relevance to both undergraduate and post-graduate students of Biochemistry. The authors have done very well to balance the unavoidable technical terminology of the discipline of Biochemistry with lucid language that makes it easy to follow the discussion. Each topic starts with introduction of basic anatomy of the organ involved then going in detail about the different tests involved. The reference values of different biochemical parameters are given along with their interpretations in different pathological conditions. The liver function tests & Renal function tests need special mention as they are described elaborately with adequate examples, the various metabolic pathways are also touched upon which the students will find very easy to understand and correlate well with different disease conditions. The MCQs & case studies at the end of each chapter are carefully designed to enhance the reader's own involvement in the penetrating reflection that the book is intended to introduce him/her to. Newer tests should be given special emphasis which will evoke further interest. I recommend it highly for students of the discipline of Biochemistry & also convey my best wishes to the authors for upcoming editions.

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Indranil Chakraborty

(Answer : Medi quiz 03/2021)

Answer keys :

- (1) a, (2) d, (3) c,
(4) b, (5) c, (6) d,
(7) d, (8) c, (9) d,
(10) b, 11 (d), 12 (c),
13 (c), 14 (a), 15 (c).

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