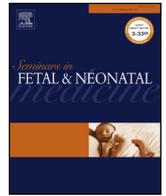




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## Book Review

**Kendig's Disorders of the respiratory tract in children, 9th edition. edited by Wilmott, Deterding, Li, Ratjen, Sly, Zar, and Bush.**

*Kendig's Disorders of the Respiratory Tract in Children* remains the definitive text for pediatric pulmonologists. Although the internet is a massive database of information, and connectivity and social media enable knowledge transfer like never before, this book is the who's who of pediatric pulmonology, and features a nice mix of established experts and up and coming stars. It is also nice to see a more international flavor to the authors than in previous editions.

The book is easy to navigate and follows a logical structure. The first section, which focuses on general and basic considerations about science, epidemiology, and clinical considerations, remains as easy to read as ever. This section has improved massively over the years, which reflects our better understanding of the science behind respiratory illness. Subsequent sections cover infection and both common and rare respiratory conditions. These sections address new advances well, and offer relevant practice points for clinicians. The chapters are concise and digestible and are well written and illustrated. It would be nice in the next edition to see some more chapters about the global burden of respiratory illness in children.

From the perspective of a neonatologist, the key chapters are well covered. The chapter on bronchopulmonary dysplasia offers some good and up-to-date insights on etiology and pathology. The sections on structural lung abnormalities are also excellent, and discuss the

controversies and difficulties with managing such children. These chapters offer a slightly different (and probably complementary) experience from those in textbooks that are primarily written for neonatologists. From the perspective of a pediatric pulmonologist, I found the book useful for augmenting my knowledge of the trickier cases we encounter – in particular, the chapter on interstitial lung disease (increasingly important for neonatologists) was a very good one. I think neonatal units should invest in a copy of *Kendig's* to go alongside the standard neonatal texts.

The videos are a good idea, and within medical education there is an increasing awareness of how much there is to offer by supplementing textbooks with multimedia sources. Some videos were better than others when it comes to offering educational opportunity. For example, the CT scans are sometimes run through a bit too quickly to enable detailed understanding of what we are observing, and some of the bronchoscopies could have benefitted from a commentary.

The benefits of textbooks such as *Kendig's* lie in the experience beneath the chapters. These pages tell us what we don't get to read in research papers, and what we can't interpret from 160 characters on Twitter. This textbook continues to lead the way in pediatric pulmonology and I look forward to continuing to use it as my "go to" text in this field.

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