The subject of pain and pain management is fundamental to the practice of medicine, more so in the specialty of orthopedics. This is a revised first paperback edition of the book that was first published in 2005. The breadth of subject matter spans from basic science, to pain assessment, pain and pain syndromes in the clinical setting, evidence based management of the many different types of pain, and the ethics of chronic pain and palliative pain care.

The basic science component in the first section gives updates in the physiology of pain pathways, the peripheral and central mechanisms, and neuropathic pain. It is concise and the format is set for easy reading.

The pain syndromes and pain in the clinical setting section provide a wide view of the many differential diagnoses of a patient in pain. It encompasses pain the child and the elderly, musculoskeletal and nerve pain, cancer pain, low back pain, and some of the more uncommon pain syndromes.

The management of pain has been well covered; inclusive of physical means, pharmacological means, acupuncture, nerve blocks and neurosurgery, and a section on the psychological and social aspects of pain care.

The book concludes with a section on the ethical standards and guidelines in pain management.

This is a concise cutting edge informative book on pain that is a welcome update for the practicing orthopedic surgeon. I highly recommend this book for the experienced orthopedist who has been out in practice for some years.

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