

BOOK REVIEW

Children's Orthopaedics and Fractures

Editors: Benson M, Fixsen J, Macnicol M, Parsch K

Third Edition, Springer London 2010, ISBN: 978-1-84882-610-6

This book is a single volume text and, if the number of times going to print is any indication of demand, then this augurs well for Children's Orthopaedics and Fractures, which is now into its third edition. It has that classical look and feel of medical textbooks, in navy blue hardcover and weighing 2.75 kg, comprising 905 pages (including index) of glossy, high quality paper.

The foreword by Eugene Bleck acknowledges the many changes and advances in children's orthopaedics and fracture management, which are covered in this book. In the preface, I like the way the editors record the debt they owe to the children they treat which is a reflection of humility of great doctors and orthopaedic surgeons.

This book is for the practising orthopaedic surgeons as well as residents preparing for their examinations. The coverage of paediatric orthopaedics and trauma is quite complete and provides an extensive review of the subjects discussed. References at the end of each chapter are solid and use of the index is reliable and accurate. This book advises on how to approach a problem, make a diagnosis and plan a rational treatment regime. It gives detailed guidance on how to perform routine operations in children's orthopaedics, aided by illustrations of operative procedures. The contents cover topics ranging from congenital conditions to trauma management, including areas such as blood disorders and

bone tumours. Summaries of clinical points at the end of each chapter enhance the book's value as a practical reference.

Contributions to chapters are by distinguished specialists mostly from the UK, but also from France, Australia, Germany and the USA, Switzerland, China, Sweden, Canada, Austria, Zambia, South Africa and India. Of note, the chapter on Children's Orthopaedics in the Tropics is authored by two of our experts in Malaysia.

I find Children's Orthopaedics and Fractures (Third Edition) to be an excellent textbook of paediatric orthopaedics and trauma. Being a textbook of considerable weight, it should be available on the shelf, at home or at work, for easy access when rapid reference is necessary. I believe that along with Tachdjian's, it more than exceeds the requirements as a comprehensive textbook of orthopaedic surgery.

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