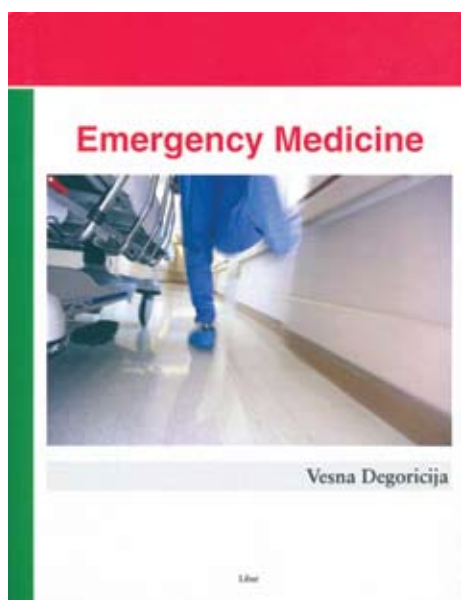


BOOK REVIEW



Emergency Medicine, 2nd edition, Libar d.o.o., Zagreb, 2013/HITNA MEDICINA, 1. dopunjeno izdanje, by Vesna Degoricija et al.; Editors. Libar d.o.o., Zagreb, 2013.
ISBN 978-953-7924-02-1

Both books are university textbooks primarily intended for the subject of Emergency Medicine at the School of Medicine, University of Zagreb (sixth year of the study) for students attending the study in English and Croatian language. The books will also be excellent textbooks for medical students and dental medicine students for the subjects of Anesthesiology, Resuscitation and Intensive Care (first and fifth years of the study), as well as for other clinical subjects, in particular Internal Medicine, Surgery, Otorhinolaryngology, Ophthalmology, etc.



Scope of the Books

The book *Emergency Medicine* has 357 pages and the book *Hitna medicina* 459 pages. Both books are divided into 15 chapters each, encoded in different colors for readers' convenience. The books are richly illustrated with more than 200 photographs, some of them originals and selected among photographs possessed by the respective authors. Clinical data are systematically organized in about 70 tables for convenience and easier memorizing. The most relevant facts and messages of each chapter are outlined in frames and shaded. Both books have a very attractive and modern design, and they both emphasize interactive, dynamic approach to learning the facts and in particular clinical skills, distinguishing them from standard textbooks and contributing greatly to their high quality. The books are supplemented with guidelines and protocols for resuscitation, diagnosis and management of severe sepsis and septic shock, formulas to calcu-

late clinical and laboratory parameters, laboratory and clinical parameters and their reference values, subject index, and list of clinical presentations and practical procedures. The books follow the protocols issued by the European Resuscitation Council and American Heart Association.

Chapter titles are identical in the two books and refer to emergency states in internal medicine, resuscitation, emergency states in pediatrics, surgery, gynecology, traumatology, ophthalmology, ENT, toxicology, transfusion medicine, and clinical pharmacology. In the introductory section, the authors give a brief account of the most important historical events and persons promoting the idea of emergency medicine in the last two decades.

In the book *Hitna medicina*, some chapters have been expanded by new contents, e.g., a contribution entitled *Emergency States Caused by Renal and Urinary Tract Diseases* has been added to the chapter on *Acute Abdominal Pain*, while a contribution entitled *Basic Care for Acute Abdominal Injury* has been added to the *Trauma* chapter.

Opinion on the Books

The books *Emergency Medicine* and *Hitna medicina* correspond completely to the contents of the subject of Emergency Medicine at the School of Medicine. The books contain chapters that elaborate emergency clinical states in different clinical disciplines and are highly convenient for acquiring appropriate knowledge and skills for a physician to efficiently work in out-of-hospital and prehospital emergency medicine as well as at hospital departments of emergency medicine.

Although the book has been written by more than thirty authors, experts in particular fields and lecturers at the School of Medicine, a high level of quantitative and qualitative uniformity has been achieved in presentation of clinical items. An identical methodological approach fully corresponding to the respective subject has been used in all chapters, irrespective of topic variation. All chapters have been conceived in the same manner, containing an optimal amount of theoretical knowledge and practical recommendations, which makes them readable and running smoothly.

The concept of the book fully respects the current status of the profession in emergency medicine and brings the latest state-of-the-art in evidence based emergency medicine. The matter is presented concisely, readably and with modern design. As for acquiring practical knowledge, note should be made of clinical case reports of the most common painful states encountered by emergency medicine physicians.

The contents of the book reveal that the authors have good knowledge of the current literature in the field. The terms, terminology and measuring units used in the book are consistent with those used in professional literature and identical to those found in respective regulations.

By the contents, methodology and design, the books *Emergency Medicine* and *Hitna medicina* are unique in the Croatian medical literature, the latter one in particular. Namely, there are books in Croatian language dealing with particular segments of this clinical discipline; however, they are of a considerably smaller extent and lower professional level.

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