

BOOK REVIEWS

Immediate Eye Care

N. K. RAGGE & D. L. EASTY

Wolfe Publishing Limited, London, 1990. 283 pp. [excluding index]

The authors of this book designed it as a 'manual to be used in the acute clinical situation'. It is a combination of informative text and atlas, aimed at general practitioners, casualty officers, eye-hospital casualty officers, and junior ophthalmologists. It is divided into two parts; part 1 contains a systematic approach to disorders of the eye with each part of the eye described in separate chapters, part 2 deals with topics of special interest eg. Trauma, Industrial Eye Disease, Paediatric Ophthalmology. Throughout the book a key-code is used P R S, indicating the individual most appropriate to take responsibility for the management of the case under consideration.

P	G. P./Casualty Officer
R	Eye Casualty Officer
S	Ophthalmologist

This book could, if not should, be present on the shelf of any department likely to be involved in the assessment/management of an acute eye problem. It is a large, hard-covered book, however, and I would regard it as a reference work rather than a manual. It will not fit in a jacket or white-coat pocket. It is nicely bound and produced. The illustrations, both diagrammatic and photographic, are excellent. The key is useful, and would lend moral support to anyone who is faced with a patient, when it comes to the decision to refer or not. The information given in the text is extremely comprehensive, and should be more than adequate for the non-expert.

I liked this book, and I think it would be a useful addition to the library of any accident and emergency department. It will also easily find it's way into the personal collection of the career ophthalmologist, but I would recommend that A&E colleagues peruse a library copy, rather than buy it, unless it is to become a departmental resource.

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