

NEW REVIEW -- TOY / Case Files: Surgery, 3rd Edition. McGraw-Hill Companies, 2009, \$32.95.

[AUTHOR]

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[BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA]

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[DOODY'S NOTES]

[REVIEWER'S EXPERT OPINION]

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****Description****

This update expands upon the 2007 edition with new cases, educating the reader through a series of clinical presentations. The cases reinforce important learning issues with a concise review of the topic and questions that focus on key points.

****Purpose****

The purpose is to provide an introduction to clinical presentations commonly encountered in the surgery clerkship. Questions at the end of each scenario focus on key issues and help prepare readers for board style questions. A review of the topic is included with each case, providing an important reference source when preparing for clerkship exams. By presenting the key information in different ways, the authors not only meet their objectives, but also provide a learning tool that most students will find useful.

****Audience****

The authors intend this for students on their surgery clerkship. Its organization makes it a useful source of review, but it is better suited for use in preparation for end-of-clerkship exams than as a primary source of information.

****Features****

The book covers a broad array of common topics encountered and tested during the surgical clerkship. Case scenarios begin each section to introduce readers to the clinical presentation of the disease. After a short review of the topic, a series of questions help drive home key points. Multiple charts and algorithms appropriately serve as supplements, not as a distraction or replication of information like other books. Due to the random organization of the cases, this book is unlikely to be the best initial source of information in preparing for the surgical clerkship.

****Assessment****

Overall, this is a useful book for anyone preparing for the surgical clerkship exam or needing review prior to the USMLE. The information is presented concisely and clearly and the questions at the end of each section reinforce the most important information. The addition of new cases and revision of previous cases make it a worthwhile update.

Weighted Numerical Score: 83 - 3 Stars