

**BOOK REVIEW****“THE ASIAN-OCEANIAN TEXTBOOK OF RADIOLOGY”**

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The editors should be congratulated on having produced the first and most comprehensive Asian-Oceanian Textbook of Radiology. It is a considerable feat, especially as the editors have collected over 80 distinguished authors who either live or originated in this region to co-author this comprehensive textbook.

The book starts with a list of abbreviations, an excellent idea and very useful for this part of the world. I would have loved to see it enlarged and be even more comprehensive.

The book goes on to examine the basic principles of imaging techniques, with a good and useful overview of the varying modalities. I particularly enjoyed the discussion of the relative radiation doses of the different procedures, being a helpful tool in dealing with patient concerns over radiation.

The next section systematically covers radiological anatomy and the diseases in each of the anatomic regions. In this section, there are ample illustrations and the text is clearly written. This is particularly important in this part of the world, where English is not the first language of many.

The book finishes with a short session on Paediatric Diseases, Tropical Diseases, Veterinary Imaging and Future Trends in Diagnostic Radiology. This is an unusual and interesting way to round off such a comprehensive textbook. It was particularly apt that there was an update on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) added just before going to press, due to the topical nature of this disease. The authors are to be particularly congratulated on this.

In summary, this well written and amply illustrated major textbook of 1,300 pages, comprehensively covers all aspects of imaging and should be highly recommended to all trainees and junior radiologists. More experienced radiologists would also find this a useful addition to their bookshelves. I would recommend that all radiologists re-read some of the earlier chapters on the basic principles. Other clinicians may also find the book useful as a reference text, covering as it does, a number of conditions less commonly seen in the rest of the world, and therefore not so well covered in other texts.

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