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SOUTHEAST

VIRGINIA—Emergency physicians sought for the scenic highlands of Virginia. State parks, national forests, many streams and lakes, plus excellent cost of living, low crime rate, all add up to excellent locations to raise your family and practice medicine. Primary Care physicians sought to provide services in emergency departments in Marion, Lexington, Clintwood, Grundy, Lebanon, Big Stone Gap, and Petersburg. Directorships available. Malpractice insurance can be procured for you. Excellent earning potential, flexible scheduling and more. Contact Dorothy Haines, Coastal Emergency Services of Richmond, Inc., 101 Gateway Centre Parkway, Suite 211, Richmond, VA 23235. 1-800-277-6638.

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NORTH CAROLINA, NORTH WILKESBORO—Emergency Medicine opportunity at the base of the breathtaking Blue Ridge Mountains. New ED. 25,000 annual ED visits. Double coverage. Earning potential starts at \$130,000. For more information please call or send CV to Ann Richardson or Bryant Armstrong, Coastal Emergency Services of Asheville, Inc., 2828 Croasdale Drive, Durham, NC 27705. 1-800-476-5986.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS—Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia locations for primary care practice. Not-for-profit chain of hospitals and clinics in small communities offers good solo, group, and associate private practice terms. Hospitals of 50-221 beds. Friendly people, cooperative medical staffs, and deep appreciation for your work. Coal mining and agriculture industries. Send CV to, or call, Greg Davis, Recruiter, Appalachian Regional Healthcare, P.O. Box 8086, Lexington, KY 40533. 1-800-888-7045 or 606-281-2537 collect. EOE M/F.

SOUTH CAROLINA, FLORENCE—Opportunities in Emergency Medicine including medical Directorship. Low volume (12,000 visits), low trauma ED. Progressive hospital with excellent back-up. Perfect setting for primary care physician interested in practicing Emergency Medicine. Midway between metropolitan Columbia and beautiful Myrtle Beach. Please call Deborah Gowen at 1-800-476-5986, ext. 4268 or send CV to: Coastal Emergency Services

treatment or management are intentionally omitted in deference to the diagnostic focus of the book and in the interest of retaining a compact size. The result is largely a book of lists: lists of potential diagnoses for a given symptom, lists of questions to ask in the differential diagnosis, and lists of diagnostic tests to consider. The most serious deficiency with this approach is a lack of interpretive discussion to link the specific questions and tests to their respective diagnoses. Without knowledge of the entities or a second reference, this approach would encourage a shotgun type of work-up.

The pocket-sized spiral format suggests that this book is to be kept at hand for ready access for difficult diagnoses, but in that context, such as for the pediatric house officer, it would seem that the missing management information would be of equal importance. A reference of this type could just as conveniently be stored on the clinic bookshelf or in the ward station, and in a bigger format it could afford the luxury of larger graphics (some of the tables presented nearly require a magnifying glass to be read) and more direction at *how* to arrive at the correct diagnosis. Ironically, in spite of the effort to remain compact, there is considerable empty space on the pages, such as title pages that are entirely blank on both sides except for the title heading.

An appendix contains tables of drug dosages, normal laboratory values, and some growth grids, as well as an extensive section that gives a "Parental Instruction Guide" for some 36 alphabetized problems from abdominal pain to vomiting. While these pages contain some very useful information, it is not clear why they are included in this book. Each topic contains a section on "when to call your child's doctor"; yet to obtain the information, it would have been necessary to have already seen the doctor (or purchase the book, which is not otherwise directed at a nonprofessional audience). This section accounts for 65 pages of the book, which might have been used more appropriately to address some of the deficiencies noted above.

In general, this book appears to lack a clear sense of purpose. It seems to attempt to do both too much and too little. The pocket-sized format unnecessarily limits the content, and the parental instructions are not a relevant contribution to the topic of problem-oriented diagnosis. More guidance in working through a differential diagnosis and the inclusion of some of the management options would make this book more useful to the clinician and reduce some of the need to consult additional references.

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Ob/Gyn Secrets. Edited by Helen L. Frederickson and Louise Wilkins-Haug. 308 pp., illustrated. Philadelphia, Hanley & Belfus, 1991. \$26.95 (paper). ISBN 0-932883-95-8.

Ob/Gyn Secrets is a handy reference to a wide range of topics in obstetrics and gynecology. The question-and-answer format used to address topics on general gynecology, reproductive endocrinology and infertility, gynecologic oncology, general obstetrics, maternal complications, the fetus, the placenta, and labor and delivery focuses on the common problems encountered in these areas.

The sections are organized, clinically relevant, and easy to read and transmit factual information with well-chosen illustrations. Each topic is thoroughly covered and includes in three to five pages a definition of the clinical problem, etiology, differential diagnosis, epidemiology, medical relevance, screening, evaluation, medical management, treatment, and prevention. The sections are referenced with 5 to 15 articles, including recent review articles.

The authors have succeeded in asking pertinent questions and providing the best answers based on current information. This book is an excellent and handy reference for medical students, residents, practicing physicians in primary care, and clinical medical educators.

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A Review of Biostatistics: A Program for Self-Instruction. Fourth Edition.

By Paul E. Leaverton. 111 pp. Boston, Little Brown, 1991. \$18.95 (paper).

ISBN 0-316-51854-9.

This clearly written, self-guided, instruction manual is aimed at an audience who desires a basic review or refresher course on biostatistics. Family physicians in practice, residents, and medical students are a potential target audience who can benefit from this tailored approach to teaching statistical methods. The author's stated goal is to provide a working knowledge of biostatistics to enhance the comprehension and appreciation of a scientific work in the medical literature.

There are probably two ways that a reader will use this book. I recommend a chapter-by-chapter analysis to take full advantage of the programmed learning format that builds from one subchapter to the next. Not necessarily recommended is the use of this book to "look up" and reference specific statistical methods. The conciseness of the text, a strength of the book from one perspective, does not allow a richer analysis of specific methods desired by another perspective.

The clear statement of educational objectives at the outset, the well-organized and thoughtful self-programmed text, and the "leanness" of the material presented led to my perception of the key strength of this book: the demystification of basic statistical methods for the neophyte. This text does not take the place of a major reference book for biostatistics, as may be needed in a graduate division course, nor is it meant for the researcher who already possesses a firm grasp of basic statistical methods. With these limitations in mind, *A Review of Biostatistics* is a well-written, time-efficient text that successfully achieves its aim at clearly and concisely presenting the basics of biostatistics for the motivated learner.

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SOUTHWEST

ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR—PREDOCTORAL/RESIDENCY—Department of Family Practice and Community Medicine, UT Southwestern, has immediate openings for two full-time faculty for affiliated residency programs in Dallas and Wichita Falls. Primary responsibility is teaching medical students in third year clerkship. Other duties include patient care, teaching residents and administration. Candidates must be residency trained and ABFP certified. Those with an interest in clinical research are encouraged to apply. Protected time and funding available. Competitive salary with generous benefits. Send resumes to Department of Family Practice and Community Medicine, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, TX 75235-9067. An equal opportunity employer.

WEST

FELLOWSHIPS AVAILABLE—The Departments of Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Applied Dentistry at the University of Colorado, Denver, in conjunction with the Denver Veterans Administration Medical Center has fellowships openings in Geriatrics and Family Medicine Faculty development available July 1, 1992. Clinical opportunities include consult service, teaching, nursing home assessment, and a well-defined research and academic program. Interested physicians send CV to Lawrence Lutz, M.D. (for Family Medicine Faculty Development and Geriatrics), at The Center for Studies in Family Medicine, 1180 Clermont St., Denver, CO 80220 or call Dr. Laurence Robbins, (IM and Geriatrics) (303)393-2822, or Dr. Douglas Berkey (Dentistry) (303)270-8015.