

BOOK REVIEW

Clinical Procedures in Primary Eye Care, 5th edition, 2021

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Clinical procedures in primary eyecare is as a valuable teaching aid intended for the education of optometry students. The 5th edition is 324 pages with 9 chapters focusing on evidence-based optometry (Chapter 1), communications skills (Chapter 2), procedures to evaluate the oculo-visual system (Chapter 3-7), variations in appearance of a normal eye (Chapter 8) and physical examination procedures (Chapter 9).

New sections of the 5th edition reflect the evolving specialties in eyecare practice. These include scleral contact lenses, myopia control, the latest guidelines on dry eye from the second Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society Dry Eye Workshop (TFOS DEWS II) report and the increasing use of advanced imaging technologies, such as optical coherence tomography (OCT) and ultra-wide field fundus imaging. This version offers more images within the book, and using a provided access code, an online access to high resolution images is available. Numerous videos are referenced throughout the book to highlight certain dynamic procedures and are accessible on line.

The book begins with a discussion on the importance of evidence-based practice and how it should guide our clinical decisions. That theme is carried throughout the book with relevant references and, when appropriate, specific references are noted for a more in-depth exploration of a particular topic. The book is informative, written in an easy language and the addition of summary tables, charts, photos and videos makes it more engaging.

The book is intended for optometry students at all levels of their education, with primary skills such as case history, tests of visual function, refraction, contact lens assessment and ocular health assessment for 1st and 2nd year students. The variations in appearance of the normal eye (Chapter 8) is a great educational addition as some patient populations can be somewhat similar (ie. only dark pigmented eyes, for example) and does not offer the clinical variations seen in practice. The communications skills (Chapter 2) can apply more to students transitioning to a clinical setting (2nd to 4th year) focusing on the importance of the clinician's communication skills and how it directly links to patient satisfaction, patient loyalty and practice growth through references. Examples of reference letters and reports with adapted terminologies are extremely useful to students who will interact with other professionals (healthcare specialists, teachers, coaches, etc) in their future practices. Final year students can also benefit from this book by finetuning their diagnostic skills with memory aids such as the LOFTSEA (Location, Onset, Frequency, Type, Self-treatment, Effect on patient and Association factors) mnemonic (Chapter 8) to further explore patient symptoms, images on advanced imaging techniques, such as OCT and ultra-wide retinal imaging (Chapter 8) and physical examination procedures (Chapter 9).

The 5th edition of *Clinical procedures in primary eyecare*, with its ebook version accessible on different platforms (computers, tablets and smartphones), high resolution images and videos, makes it particularly useful for distance learning. As many educators around the world, look for tools to enhance their online learning in this time of social distancing, this book is well-timed and a valuable addition to didactic and practical instruction throughout the optometry curriculum. ●