

Book Review

Common, Uncommon and Complicated Kidney Diseases in Children—Case Studies, *Editor Kumud P Mehta, Bhalani Publishing House, Mumbai, First edition; 2008; pp 86; Rs 125.*

Most text books in pediatric nephrology provide an account of pathophysiology, diagnosis and management of diseases of the kidney and urinary tract. While serving a useful purpose, their role in providing practical advice on management of patients is limited. In this context, the advantages of algorithm-based and case-based learning are increasingly recognized. While a transition from didactic lectures to case-based learning is seen in most CME programs, text books that address case-scenarios are limited. This book, by one of the most revered teachers in the specialty, fulfills this need.

The book adopts a syndromic approach on common conditions seen in practice. Each of the first ten chapters begins with a summary emphasizing the salient features on diagnosis and management. These

are followed by comprehensive case-discussions covering a spectrum of disorders. The last chapter focusses on chronic kidney disease and the role of a pediatrician in preventive nephrology. The chapters are well referenced and reflect the current standard of care for most conditions. Future editions of this book shall benefit by incorporating more figures, lesser use of abbreviations and maintaining up-to-date referencing.

The case-studies depicted reflect the author's rich and varied experience and knowledge in the specialty. These have been aptly used to reiterate key concepts on diagnoses and management. The lucid style and logical reasoning makes reading a pleasure. The book is highly recommended for postgraduate students and pediatricians in practice.

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