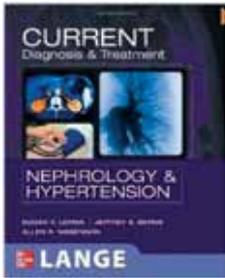


Book review



Reviewed by: Tracey Blow, Nurse Unit Manager Dialysis Services, St George Hospital, NSW, Australia

Current Diagnosis & Treatment: Nephrology & Hypertension

Editors: Edgar V Lerma, Jeffery S Berns & Allen R Nissenson

Publisher: McGraw Hill Companies, USA, 2009, 574 pages

The textbook *Current Diagnosis & Treatment: Nephrology & Hypertension* is a comprehensive resource for junior doctors and senior nursing staff who are advancing their level of knowledge in nephrology. Released in 2009, this resource covers the main areas of nephrology medicine including disease processes, hypertension management, acute and chronic renal failure and renal replacement therapies.

The resource was edited by three United States doctors, two with nephrology and hypertension backgrounds and one practising general medicine. There are over 110 authors contributing to the resource with varying backgrounds: pathology and electrolyte medicine; nephrology and hypertension fields; paediatric and general medicine domains; all of whom are very qualified to contribute to the information compiled.

The resource is divided into 10 broad sections relating to fluid and electrolyte disorders, acute and chronic renal failure, glomerular and tubulointerstitial diseases, hypertension, genetic diseases, renal replacement therapies, kidney disease in special populations and special topics in nephrology.

Each chapter follows a general template that includes general considerations of the area being discussed, pathogenesis of disease processes, signs and symptoms of the disease, prevention and treatment methods, complications and prognosis of diseases and degrees of renal failure. Additionally, each chapter has a succinct snapshot called “essentials of diagnosis”, outlining the main features of the topic being reviewed, which would benefit both medical and nursing staff.

Although the content is medically orientated, which would suit junior doctors pursuing a career in renal medicine, senior nurses completing postgraduate studies in renal nursing would benefit from this valuable resource.

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