

Management of Common Gastroenterological Problems. A Malaysia and Singapore Perspective

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This 313 page book is authored by 17 Singaporeans and 7 Malaysians and was intended to give a Malaysian and Singaporean perspective to the practical management of common gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary and pancreatic problems. It is divided into 2 sections. The first entitled luminal gastroenterology, has chapter titles based on symptom complexes such as non-cardiac chest pain, functional dyspepsia, upper gastrointestinal bleeding and focuses on the management algorithm of these conditions. The second section entitled "hepatobiliary and pancreas" is divided into chapters which are largely disease based such as acute hepatitis, chronic hepatitis, complications of cirrhosis, gallstone disease and so on. It is in the main well written. The layout and print makes it eminently

readable. The book would serve as useful revision guide to undergraduates and postgraduates as well as a quick reference guide to medical practitioners in primary secondary care. The book rates on an equal footing to other concise books on gastroenterology from the West. However, in its attempt to provide a unique Malaysian and Singaporean perspective, the book falls somewhat short. This is partly at least due to the dearth of local data. There was no reference to the geographical, socioeconomic and demographic differences within Malaysia which significantly influence the realistic approach to the management of common gastrointestinal problems. In the last analysis, the book deserves credit for being a useful addition to the list of existing concise textbooks on gastroenterology.

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