Book review

Curbside Consultation in Fracture Management: 49 Clinical Questions

Editors: Walter W. Virkus; Series Editor: Bernard R. Bach, Jr.

Bibliographic Data: ISBN: 978-1-55642-829-6, (alk. paper), soft cover, SLACK Incorporated, 2008, 215 pages **Subjects:** Clinical management of fractures.

DESCRIPTION: A user-friendly, unique resource for the treatment of fractures designed in a casual questions and answers format which provides basic knowledge, current information and evidence based expert advices enhanced by images and diagrams and supported by references.

PURPOSE: Designing this book the editor has aimed to prepare not only a source of current knowledge and opinions by experienced authors in fracture management for decision making in daily practice but also a brief reference and useful educational resource in orthopedic trauma surgery.

FEATURES: Three Sections are composed of 49 subjects in a form of the answers of frequently asked questions richly illustrated by images and diagrams and including references at the end of each subject.

The Section I is "UPPER EXTREMITIES" including: Neck fracture; Humerus shaft fracture; Management of radial nerve palsy associated with humeral fracture; Clavicle fractures; Elbow fractures in children; Fasciotomy technic of the forearm; Distal radius fracture; Indications of radial head replacement, Femur and humeral shaft fractures; Treatment of posterolateral elbow dislocation;

The Section II is "LOWER EXTREMITIES" including : Femur fractures; Pelvic fractures; Life threatening pelvic fractures; Decision for surgical treatment in pelvic fractures; Treatment of anterior fracture of femoral head and hip joint incongruity; Management of a displaced femoral neck fracture in young patient in ER; Elder patients with displaced femoral head fracture; Patella and tibial plateau fractures; Criteria for compartment syndromes in the tibia; Tricks in nailing proximal and distal tibial fractures; Surgical management of distal tibia spiral fracture in middle aged women; Pilon fracture; Management of syndesmotic screws in adult patient; The management of minimally displaced posterior malleol in three malleolar fractures; Postoperative management of bimalleolar fractures; Management of minimally displaced bimalleolar fracture in insulin dependant middle aged woman; Management of calcaneal fractures; Fixation technic for a displaced talar neck fracture in a patient in ER: Indications for surgical treatment of metatarsal fractures; Bone grafting in acute fractures; Management of a nonunion of plated midshaft tibia fracture; Management of a child with a twisted ankle and normal x-rays; Assessment of compartment syndrome in foot.

The Section III is about "GENERAL FRACTURE CARE" including: Management of multiple orthopedic injuries and damage control orthopedics; Bone stimulation in nonunion; Indications for locking plates; Fractures requiring anatomic reduction.

AUDIENCE: Mainly trauma fellows and practicing orthopedists are the targeted audience of the book, but not only the basic knowledge for the orthopedic residents but also the expert advices for complicated and controversial cases pointing experienced surgeons widen the spectrum of audience. Also non-physician personnel may benefit the basic knowledge from brief answers given in a casual format.

ASSESMENT: "Curbside Consultation in Fracture Management:49 Clinical Questions" offering practical, brief, evidence based answers to frequently asked questions especially those have been often left controversial related with the treatment of fractures of upper and lower extremity, pelvic fractures is a useful resource mainly for residents, fellows and junior orthopedists. Casual format that mimics a "curbside" dialog of colleagues and also the rich illustrations by images and diagrams makes the advanced knowledge in the text easier to understand and learn. Questions are carefully chosen from a wide spectrum of subjects related to fracture management to form a unique reference including high and low energy trauma fractures, pediatric fractures, fractures in elderly, multiple orthopedic injury, and general fracture care. Assessment of fractures and diagnostic approach, postoperative care and rehabilitative strategies are also mentioned. A user friendly format of brief answers to frequently asked questions provides easier and quicker access to the subject. Current information supported by references for every subject, expert advices and some tricks on treatment strategies, choices for fixation and implants, surgical approaches and technics for complicated cases like politrauma patents with some existing morbidities are the advanced knowledge which even experienced orthopedists will appreciate makes the book different from classical texts on fracture management.

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