J Stoker, S.A. Taylor and J.O.L. DeLancey (eds) Imaging pelvic floor disorders, 2nd edition

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This book covers a number of imaging modalities that have been explored and used in assessing the pelvic floor. It starts with background about the embryology, anatomy and physiology of the pelvic floor muscle as well as the urethral and anal sphincters. Special attention is given to muscle innervation as well as denervation. This provides the foundation for understanding the images obtained by different imaging techniques described later in the book. The ability to identify structures on magnetic resonance imaging is a major challenge to clinicians. This book helps to build this ability through its detailed anatomical description as well as the large number of images it includes.

Individual chapters are allocated to evacuation proctography, dynamic cystoproctography, dynamic, static and endoanal magnetic resonance imaging, pelvic floor and endoanal ultrasound, urodynamic tests, including video-urodynamics, as well as anorectal physiology. The technique of these investigations as well as their clinical value

are covered, with pictures, though some chapters are clearer and more clinically orientated than others.

The book ends with a comprehensive overview of the presentation and management of common pelvic floor disorders for radiologists. The disorders covered include pelvic organ prolapse, urinary and anal incontinence, and constipation. This section is well written in a clear manner and deals with differences between clinical and radiological findings. Reading this section helps clinicians appreciate radiologists' perspectives, and this will undoubtedly enhance communication and co-operation between the two disciplines.

The book deals with an emerging field that is likely to become increasingly used in clinical practice, probably in selected cases, over the next few years. The chapters on anatomy and physiology are rather detailed for clinicians, and the anatomical outlook described in this book will be new to most readers. Some of the terms are more commonly used in North America. The inclusion of male disorders makes it less interesting to urogynaecologists. The book is dense, with long paragraphs and small empty spaces. The numbering of chapters and headings as well as subheadings is confusing and there is a lot of repetition across chapters. However, the book is a valuable resource for those keen on having an idea about new imaging modalities. Nonetheless, it is not a substitute for hands-on experience, which should include discussion and interaction with radiologists, as part of a multidisciplinary approach to patient assessment and management.

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