Book Review

Neglected Musculoskeletal Injuries

Editors: Anil K Jain, Sudhir Kumar
Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers (P) Ltd,
2010, ISBN 978-81-8448-889-0, p. 443

The literature on neglected musculoskeletal injuries, as expected, is not voluminous. This is a malady plaguing most of the underdeveloped and developing world, which also has a peculiar resistance to publishing its body of experience, though the collective experience is huge. Hence, the editors of this text must be congratulated for marking a beginning – which is surely an important milestone.

Neglected Musculoskeletal Injuries is a multi-authored text and has seven chapters devoted to the basics, and these include those on bone healing, nonunions and infected nonunions, myositis ossificans and Volkmann's ischaemic contracture. Rather interestingly, Sarmiento digresses from bone healing and fracture care to the ills plaguing modern orthopedics and the unquestioned acceptance of operative methods.

A huge ground is covered in the neglected territory with chapters on neglected spine trauma, fracture neck of the femur, trochanteric and subtrochanteric fractures, hip dislocations, knee trauma, diaphyseal fractures, and foot and ankle injuries. Similarly with regard to the upper limb, chapters are dedicated to elbow trauma and stiffness, elbow dislocations, condylar injuries, distal radius fractures, fractures and dislocations of the hand and tendon and peripheral nerve injuries. In short, this textbook covers all important areas of common neglect.

On the pediatric side, six chapters cover common problems of upper and lower limb neglect, including a chapter on neglected physeal injuries. A purview of these chapters highlights the diagnosis and management of late presentations, which has immense practical utility.

The first chapter of this text book examines the causes and magnitude of the problem of neglect. This highlights the importance of creating awareness and efforts at prevention of this problem and resources for education and correct management of trauma. I also hope to see a chapter devoted to this in future editions of this textbook.

Neglected Musculoskeletal Injuries has a pleasing format, which makes it eminently readable. There are many important tables, flow charts, and figures, which help in comprehending the issues and strategies involved in handling neglected trauma. I am sure this textbook would be of use to all orthopedic surgeons who are handling trauma, as invariably there will be late presentations. It will be a valuable addition to orthopedic libraries all over the world and an important reference for neglected problems in trauma till the time these disappear from the world stage.

Ashok N Johari

Consultant Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon,
Past President,
Indian Orthopaedic Association,
Chief Editor, *Journal of Pediatric Orthopaedics (Br)*
E-mail: drashokjohari@hotmail.com

Access this article online

Quick Response Code:

Website:

www.ijoonline.com