Pediatric Gastroenterology: 51 Clinical Questions & Answers: Pankaj Vohra (ed)

Published by CBS Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi, India; First Edition: 2022; ISBN: 978-93-90709-27-4; Pages: 298; Price: ₹ 995/–

John Matthai¹

Received: 17 November 2021 / Accepted: 25 November 2021 / Published online: 8 January 2022
© Dr. K C Chaudhuri Foundation 2021

Pediatric Gastroenterology: 51 Clinical Questions & Answers edited by Pankaj Vohra is a book unique in its category. Conventional books in pediatrics have chapters based on specific diseases and the volume of information depends on its target audience. This is one reason why postgraduate students and pediatricians have difficulty in the diagnosis and management of an unusual clinical problem in practice. This book aims to address this lacuna. Based on the concept of problem-based learning, the authors have attempted to discuss real issues encountered at work. Many of the common problems in gastroenterology relevant to pediatricians have been addressed. It should be of particular use to those working in areas where the access to expert pediatric gastroenterology advice is limited.

The general attitude of all adult learners today is to search for the specific minimum information that they need for their problem. The editor has conceptualized this book with this in mind. This 298-page book has 48 eminent authors answering 51 questions. Though the authors are from different countries and varied backgrounds, the editor has ensured that the style of writing is uniform across all chapters. The scientific content is very good as well as up-to-date and the index is compact. The quality of paper, printing, and binding as well as the photographs is excellent. The language is simple, presented in an easy-to-read

format, and should serve as a ready reference for pediatricians in busy practice.

The title of each chapter is a question and some authors have briefly discussed the answer to that in the introduction, and rightly so. Some authors have followed a question–answer format throughout their chapter, which is novel and welcome considering the title of the book. It would have been better if all the chapters were written in a similar format with an appropriate introduction relating to the question posed.

Some chapters should be much shorter and an algorithm would have been a welcome addition for a few. Since the book is meant for practicing pediatricians in the third world countries, it would have been prudent if the references provided for additional reading were all from easily accessible journals.

Overall, it is a commendable effort by the Editor and all the authors. Subsequent editions should attempt to answer more questions without increasing the size of the book. The concept and format of this book is the way of the future. It is highly recommended for anyone dealing with gastrointestinal diseases in children.

Publisher's Note Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

✉ John Matthai
psg_peds@yahoo.com

¹ Department of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Masonic Children's Hospital, Race Course, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu 641004, India