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Diagnostic Imaging

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Samuel Stafrace • Johan G. (Hans) Blickman
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Radiological Imaging of the Digestive Tract in Infants and Children

Second Edition

 Springer

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ISSN 0942-5373

ISSN 2197-4187 (electronic)

Medical Radiology

ISBN 978-3-319-18433-3

ISBN 978-3-319-18434-0 (eBook)

DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-18434-0

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016944465

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Printed on acid-free paper

This Springer imprint is published by Springer Nature

The registered company is Springer International Publishing AG Switzerland

Preface

As a pediatric radiologist, I often meet clinical colleagues who “just don’t get it”: who do not seem to see the cardinal differences involved when investigating and treating the next generation(s). This may be a fact of life that I have learnt to accept but as a pediatric radiologist brings the added responsibility of highlighting that children are different at every occasion possible: simply not small adults!

This second edition of *Diagnostic Imaging: Radiological Imaging of the Digestive Tract in Infants and Children* hopefully brings this across. It is targeted to generalists and specialists alike – although it is not exhaustive, it offers a broad practical approach to the clinical diagnostic issues encountered.

In the second edition, the number of chapters has been extended. After a brief chapter on modalities, the next couple of chapters target the emergency conditions encountered in infants and young children. The remaining chapters then follow a more traditional anatomical division. A practical chapter on interventional techniques completes the project.

Newer chapters brought along a good number of new authors: specifically picked from different parts of the world and of different professional stature. This surely adds to the variety offered and gives the completed book a more international reach. We have to thank each and every colleague and friend who have put in time to bring this together. I am very grateful especially for sharing the rare pathologies they encounter in their respective practices to broaden our knowledge base.

Chapters can now be acquired and downloaded individually. In view of this, we have tried our best to make each chapter a “stand alone.” This surely resulted in some overlap – and occasionally some challenging ideas by different authors. We have chosen to leave this and see this as a strength of the project – allowing different experienced colleagues to share their interpretations of their personal experiences backed by the published literature.

Finally on a personal level:

When approached by my good friend Rick van Rijn to introduce me to Hans about this project, I have to admit I was delighted. I felt honored to the prospect of working with Hans and more so of being asked to lead this. Hans did warn that this is like building a new house or department – “twice as

expensive and twice as long!” His experience in such projects had surely nailed this equation. Hans – it has been such a pleasure!

Finally, I cannot but thank my immediate family – Mandy, Maya, and Elena. The time opportunity cost of a book project is very large – and the family is the one who pays for this. Your understanding and sacrifice humbles me.

Enjoy the book.

Doha, Qatar

Sam Stafrace

To me, the most important part of being the senior author of any academic writing endeavor is to have the distinct pleasure of seeing the next generations of pediatric imagers grow and mature. Throughout my career, I have relished the joy and satisfaction of sharing an idea, nurturing the project, mentoring the colleagues in question, and finally rejoicing in the final “product.”

When I was asked to undertake a second edition of *Diagnostic Imaging: Radiological Imaging of the Digestive Tract in Infants and Children*, I must confess to a less than enthusiastic reaction. Especially as our jobs have gotten busier, our academic time has shrunk and it was difficult to conceive of once more marshaling the energy to set up, manage, and complete such a project.

As mentioned above, our wonderful colleague (and my mentoree) Prof. Rick van Rijn would not hear of such drivel and suggested I contact Dr. Sam Stafrace, whom he described as a young and energetic colleague who would “surely jump at the chance!”

The result is before you. Sam and the most wonderful and knowledgeable crew of contributors have done an outstanding job. Thank you all, you especially Sam, as well as the excellent team at Springer, for going above and beyond.

All you readers now need to do is do well by our pediatric patients (and their parents, and their doctors, etc.). What more satisfying “job” is there?

Rochester, NY, USA
February 2016

Johan G. (Hans) Blickman

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