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Atlas of Rectoscopy and Colonoscopy

Translated by B. Clowdus

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and 31 Figures Within the Text

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Foreword to the First German Edition

Changes in morphology, both macroscopic and microscopic, continue to play a significant role in the diagnosis of colorectal diseases, and their importance has not been lessened by the introduction of more subtle techniques concerned with alterations in biochemistry and immunology. On the contrary, the present level of confidence in morphologic features as the best means for establishing a diagnosis has led to an even wider acceptance of their value. Factors contributing to this development no doubt include the recent technical advances in the field of fiberoptic endoscopy with a cold light source and the availability of better instruments for obtaining mucosal biopsy specimens from the gastrointestinal tract. Proctoscopy with more extensive examination using colonoscopy remains one of the most important examinations that can be performed in both the physician's office and the hospital. In the properly prepared patient, this examination in conjunction with the histologic examination of tissue obtained through mucosal punch biopsy will greatly aid in the clarification of the vast majority of causes for signs and symptoms of colorectal diseases.

It is therefore welcome that these authors have undertaken to compile their techniques and findings in the form of an atlas of rectoscopy and colonoscopy. They have not only emphasized the importance of this subject for both teaching and practice but have also given us an exact presentation of their techniques with critical appraisal of their findings.

This work will provide a source of very valuable information for every student desiring to learn proctoscopy and colonoscopy, and for those physicians who are already proficient and regularly perform these examinations, it will offer additional stimulation and knowledge. With so many atlases already available concerning esophagogastroduodenoscopy and laparoscopy, this atlas of proctoscopy and colonoscopy fills a vacuum in the medical literature.

Prof. Dr. H.A. KÜHN

Preface to the Second German Edition

The great interest with which our atlas of rectoscopy and colonoscopy was received demonstrated that sufficient didactic help was lacking for the student desiring to master this subject. Within 1 year of its publication, the first edition was completely sold out.

Since the first edition was published, new and important developments have occurred in Germany. The increasing incidence of colorectal carcinoma has led to the introduction of a mandatory test for occult blood in the stool during the annual examination of every person over 45 years of age. When a positive finding is obtained, sigmoidoscopy must be performed in addition to the usual digital examination. As a result, sigmoidoscopy is being used at present even more extensively by the family physician. Along with these developments, a new short fiberoptic sigmoidoscope that can be easily operated has been developed. It enables even the relatively inexperienced individual to examine the colon up to the splenic flexure. Since 90% of all polyps and carcinomas of the colon arise in the area between the anus and the splenic flexure, this instrument could provide for earlier recognition and removal of many colorectal tumors. The technical details of this new fiberscope are, therefore, presented in this second edition. We are additionally grateful to Springer-Verlag whose accommodation made it possible for a number of the Figures and Plates to be altered with resultant improvement in their didactic value.

New illustrations in this edition include those showing pneumatosis cystoides supplied by Dr. H. SCHALK, Krankenhaus Hochstift, Worms; solitary rectal ulcer supplied by Dr. A. NEIGER; and ischemic colitis supplied by Prof. Dr. P. DEYHLE, Zurich.

In the preparation of this second edition, the authors have been helped by many kind suggestions from their colleagues, and for this assistance they are most grateful.

Summer 1977

P. OTTO K. EWE

Preface to the First German Edition

Sigmoidoscopy represents the most extensively used endoscopic examination and is performed by a variety of specialists — internists, surgeons, dermatologists, urologists, gynecologists, pediatricians, and general practitioners.

Most of our colleagues have nevertheless been forced to acquire their knowledge about sigmoidoscopy through their own efforts and to evaluate their results without the benefit of outside help. It is particularly for the members of this group that this atlas of rectoscopy and colonoscopy is intended.

Since sigmoidoscopy should always be performed in conjunction with the medical history and inspection of the anal region and be preceded by the digital rectal examination, these aspects have also been considered. As the use of endoscopy to examine those areas of the large bowel above the reach of the proctoscope has become quite common, a chapter devoted to colonoscopy has also been included.

Until recently, there was no current German-language publication that concerned itself extensively with proctology. Then, *Proctology in the Physician's Office* was published by Roschke containing a report of his extensive personal experiences. This work was soon followed by the exceptionally concise and compact *Atlas of Practical Proctology* by Neiger. Both of these publications are devoted primarily to the practice of proctology, while the *Color Atlas of Endoscopy and Biopsy of the Intestinal Tract* by Beck and others largely foregoes any attention to technical details and proctology.

The authors hope that this atlas will be of practical benefit to colleagues endeavoring to become proficient on their own in proctoscopy and also to those with limited experience who might have difficulty making a diagnosis while performing proctoscopy sporadically. The authors' own recollection of such a situation resulted in their preparation of this atlas. Many colleagues have inspired us to work on this atlas. To each of them we express our thanks. Especially deserving of our gratitude are Mrs. A. WERNER and Mrs. W. OPEL for their help with the illustrations, as well as Dr. K.A. SCHULZ, Dermatology Clinic Linden/Hannover for the illustrations of the perianal eczema and broad condylomata. The manuscript was kindly prepared by Mrs. B. KIRCHNIAWY in her spare time. We are also grateful to the staff of Springer-Verlag for advice and help during the production of this book.

P. OTTO K. EWE

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Indications for Performing a Proctologic Examination and Endoscopy	1
3	Clinical History	4
3.1	Preprinted Record Form	5
4	Preparation for Endoscopic Examination.	7
4.1	Proctosigmoidoscopy	7
4.2	Sigmoidocolonoscopy	7
4.2.1	Extended Sigmoidoscopy	7
4.2.2	High Colonoscopy	7
4.3	Endoscopic Polypectomy	8
4.4	Premedication for Sigmoidocolonoscopy	8
5	Position	9
5.1	Knee-Elbow or Knee-Chest Position	9
5.2	Dorsal Lithotomy Position	9
5.3	Sims's Position	10
6	Inspection of the Perianal Region	11
7	Digital Rectal Examination	11
7.1	Finger Protection	11
7.2	Practical Performance	12
8	Instruments Used for Endoscopy of Anus and Rectum	14
8.1	Lighting	14
8.2	Anal Specula	14
8.3	Anoscope	14
8.4	Proctoscope	16
8.4.1	Instruments with Anterior Opening	16
8.4.2	Instruments with Lateral Opening	16
8.5	Rectoscope	16
8.6	Pediatric Instruments	17
9	Additional Instruments	18
9.1	Sounds	18
9.2	Cleaning Aids	18
9.2.1	Applicators	18
9.2.2	Suction Tubes	18

9.2.3	Suction-Irrigation Devices	18
9.3	Biopsy Instruments	18
9.3.1	Forceps	18
9.3.2	Suction Biopsy	18
9.4	Polyp Snares	19
9.5	Coagulation Sounds to Control Bleeding	19
9.6	Curved Knife.	20
9.7	Foreign-Body Forceps	20
9.8	Instruments for Treatment of Hemorrhoids.	20
9.9	Optical Aids	20
9.9.1	Magnifiers	20
9.9.2	Magnification Attachments (Lumina, Hopkin's Optics)	20
9.10	Documentation by Photography	21
10	Technique for Performing Rectoscopy	23
10.1	Introduction of the Instrument	23
10.2	Manipulation of the Instrument During Its Advancement	23
10.3	Normal Findings	23
10.4	Factitial Lesions due to Patient Preparation and Examination	27
10.5	Incidental Findings	27
10.5.1	Melanosis Coli	27
10.5.2	Colica Mucosa ("Mucus Colitis")	27
10.6	Biopsy.	27
10.6.1	Forceps Biopsy	27
10.6.2	Suction Biopsy	28
10.7	Complications	28
10.7.1	Perforation.	28
10.7.2	Bleeding	28
10.8	Removal of Polypoid Lesions.	28
11	Colonoscopy	30
11.1	Endoscopic Instruments	30
11.2	Additional Instruments	32
11.3	Examination Technique	35
11.4	Polypectomy	37
11.4.1	Technique of Polypectomy	40
11.5	Complications	40
11.5.1	Sigmoidocolonoscopy	40
11.5.2	Polypectomy	41
12	Diseases of the External Anal Area	42
12.1	Eczema	42
12.2	Hemorrhoidal Tags	43

12.3	Perianal Thrombosis (“Hematoma”)	43
12.4	External Hemorrhoids	44
12.5	Anal Fissure	44
12.5.1	Acute Fissure	44
12.5.2	Chronic Fissure	45
12.6	Condylomata	45
12.6.1	Pointed Condylomata (Condylomata Acuminata)	45
12.6.2	Broad Condylomata (Condylomata Lata)	45
12.7	Anal Fistula	46
12.8	Incomplete Fistula	47
12.9	Anal Carcinoma	48
12.10	Anal and Rectal Prolapse	48
13	Anitis — Cryptitis — Papillitis	49
14	Hemorrhoids	50
14.1	Staging	50
14.2	Treatment	51
15	Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	53
15.1	Nonspecific Proctitis	54
15.2	Infectious (Entero-) Proctocolitis	54
15.3	Radiation Proctitis	54
15.4	Ischemic Colitis — Pseudomembranous Colitis	55
15.5	Ulcerative Colitis	55
15.5.1	Hemorrhagic (“Ulcerative”) Proctitis	56
15.5.2	Active Ulcerative Colitis	56
15.5.3	Chronic Ulcerative Colitis	56
15.6	Crohn’s Disease	56
16	Parasites	58
17	Diverticulosis — Diverticulitis	58
18	Tumors	59
18.1	Benign Tumors	59
18.1.1	Hyperplastic Polyps	60
18.1.2	Tubular Adenoma — Papillary Adenoma — Villous Adenoma — Mixed Forms	60
18.1.3	Familial Polyposis (Adenomatosis)	61
18.1.4	Peutz-Jeghers Syndrome	61
18.2	Malignant Tumors	62
19	Endometriosis	64
20	Pneumatosis Cystoides Intestinalis	64
21	Solitary Rectal Ulcer	65
22	Anastomoses (Ileorectal, Colorectal)	66

23	Fistulae (Rectovaginal, Rectovesical)	66
24	Ureteral Transplantation	67
25	Melena	67
26	Foreign Bodies	67
Plates I–XIX		69
Plate I	Endoscopic findings in normal rectum . . .	70
Plate II	Melanosis recti, perianal eczema, hemorrhoidal tags	72
Plate III	Perianal thrombosis, external hemorrhoids	74
Plate IV	Anal fissure, condylomata	76
Plate V	Anal fistula	78
Plate VI	Anal carcinoma, anal and rectal prolapse . .	80
Plate VII	Anitis, cryptitis and proctitis	82
Plate VIII	Hemorrhoids and their treatment	84
Plate IX	Radiation proctitis	86
Plate X	Infectious entero-colitis, amebic colitis . . .	88
Plate XI	Floride ulcerative colitis	90
Plate XII	Chronic ulcerative colitis, pseudopolyps . .	92
Plate XIII	Crohn's disease	94
Plate XIV	Crohn's disease, diverticulum	96
Plate XV	Polyps	98
Plate XVI	Polyps	100
Plate XVII	Polyposis	102
Plate XVIII	Carcinoma and other malignant new growths	104
Plate XIX	Solitary rectal ulcer, rectovesicle fistula, tarry stool in rectum	106
Subject Index		109