

positioning; and quality control and management. The third chapter also covers modified techniques—namely, for the augmented breast, immobile patient, large breast, small breast, and the male patient. The fifth chapter is on equipment evaluation, and the sixth is on quality control procedures. This chapter, however, is largely a repetition of chapter four, except for minor differences in wording, and I could not tell if this duplication was intentional to emphasise the importance of the subject, or if it was an editorial oversight.

As professionals, we aim to serve patients with the highest standard of practice. As stated by the authors in the Preface, “While advanced qualification may not

guarantee quality, they add credibility to the overall knowledge of the imaging professional. Competence can only be achieved through active participation, repetition, and real interest in perfecting that which one does.” For radiographers working in mammography, this book would be a useful reference during daily practice. It would also be useful for administrators involved in mammography.

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EBM guidelines. Evidence-based medicine

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Duodecim Medical Publications Ltd., PO Box 713, FIN-00101 Helsinki, Finland
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This CD-ROM is a companion to the web-based version of *Evidence-Based Medicine* (<http://www.ebm-guidelines.com>). Whereas the web-based version is more responsive and easier to navigate, the CD-ROM is very readable and is akin to a comprehensive manual for primary care doctors. I checked the entries for breast cancer screening, resuscitation, diabetes mellitus, and ischaemic stroke, and found the information accurate and advice (eg for family physicians) sound.

When the CD-ROM is compared with alternative resources, such as *Clinical Evidence* from BMJ Publishing Group, or *Med-weave* and *Cline-guide* under the brandname of *Ovid*, the other products are more sophisticated, quote more detailed references, have a more quantitative analysis, and make more specific use of different levels of evidence. *Clinical Evidence* uses a three-part clinical question approach, whereas the *Ovid* products often allow free-text searches. The CD-ROM, however, mainly uses a topical approach,

and the advanced search allows only the combination of a key word with a text word. The content is not all supported by categorised evidence, but in those places where robust evidence is outstanding, there is comprehensive coverage of practical problems.

Overall, the CD-ROM is a useful ‘manual’ for primary care doctors, senior medical students during their clinical training, and junior doctors undergoing specialist training that deals with primary care problems from time to time. For specialists and more highly trained personnel, other databases such as the Cochrane database, and that in the Hospital Authority Library Information Services might be more appropriate.

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