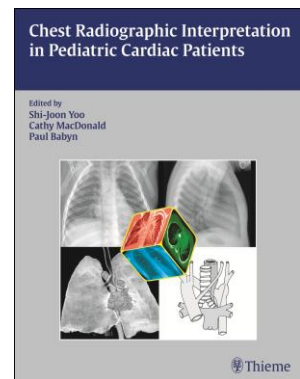


Chest Radiographic Interpretation in Pediatric Cardiac Patients

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While there have been significant advances in cross sectional imaging in the past few years, especially in the field of pulmonary and cardiac CT, chest radiograph remains the mainstay firstline and follow-up imaging modality in cardiac diseases. Its role is ever more important in the paediatric population where radiation dose is a concern.

Presentations of congenital and acquired cardiac diseases are varied and do not always conform to the textbook description. General radiologists are also often unaccustomed to cardiac physiology and the surgical treatment of paediatric cardiac disease. This makes interpretation of chest radiographs challenging.

Written specifically with radiology and cardiology residents in mind, this concise book aims to familiarise readers with important radiographic features of paediatric cardiac diseases.

The book is divided into three sections and has over 400 illustrations. Section one covers heart anatomy, its basic physiology and the commonly used physiological parameters. There is also a dedicated chapter that gives a brief overview of the paediatric cardiovascular surgical procedures.

In section two, a systematic approach in evaluating cardiac diseases on chest radiograph is presented to the reader. The appearances of the classical cardiac configurations, eg coeur en sabot, egg-on-side appearance, figure-of-eight configuration, are described in terms of the anatomical/physiological abnormality rather than simply being ascribed to a disease entity. This is accompanied by both frontal and lateral chest radiographs, as well as hand drawn illustrations and/or cross sectional images where appropriate.

The third section concentrates on the common cardiac conditions encountered in the paediatric population. As well as imaging features, the pathophysiology and clinical manifestations of different diseases are also included. A bullet point format allows for quick review of conditions. The ample imaging examples and illustrations will serve well as comparative references in day-to-day practice.

The strength of this book is that it encourages radiologists to develop an appreciation of the underlying pathology when interpreting radiographs instead of treating plain film viewing as a pattern recognition exercise.

This book will be an invaluable addition to any radiology department involved in the care of paediatric patients.