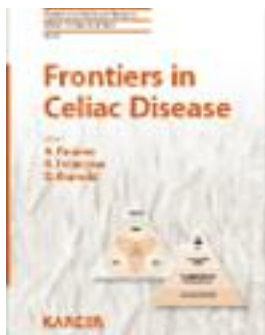


## BOOK REVIEWS



### Frontiers in celiac disease.

FASANO A. (Baltimore, Md.), TRONCONE R. (Naples), BRANSKI D. (Jerusalem). VIII + 222 p., 52 fig., 19 in color, 25 tab., hard cover, 2008. Price : CHF 178 ; EUR 127 ; USD 178. Prices subject to change. ISBN-13 : 978-3-8055-8526-2.

e-ISBN : 978-3-8055-8527-9. [www.karger.com/pamed](http://www.karger.com/pamed).

Few other fields in human biology have experienced such a tremendous progress as celiac disease has during the past few years. The contributors to 'Frontiers in Celiac Disease' are world-renowned opinion leaders who made these advances possible. Their expertise has been assembled here to provide a comprehensive overview of the current knowledge of the epidemiology, pathogenesis, clinical presentations, diagnosis and treatment of celiac disease. In addition, the stage is set for innovative strategies for preventive interventions and treatment alternatives to a gluten-free diet.

A valuable reference for basic and translational scientists, this book also serves as a practical resource to healthcare professionals, including general practitioners, subspecialists, dietitians, nutritionists, and nurses and nurse practitioners. Students from different disciplines will find this book a helpful guide to expand and deepen their knowledge of celiac disease.

Comment : this book is indeed a comprehensive update of the current knowledge in Celiac disease. It provides very interesting scientific and clinical information for paediatricians, gastroenterologist, nutritionists, dietitians and researchers interested in celiac disease.

I was pleased to read the chapters on The Changing Clinical Presentation of Celiac Disease ; HLA and Non-HLA Genes in Celiac Disease ; Biochemistry and Biological Properties of Gliadin Peptides ; Innate Immunity and Celiac Disease ; The Role of the Intestinal Barrier Function in the Pathogenesis of Celiac Disease.

For the clinician, chapters about Diagnosis of Celiac Disease, Current Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Celiac Disease ; Update on the Management of Refractory Celiac Disease, Current Therapy are of utmost importance. But the main interest in the book resides in the chapters on new and future therapies for celiac patients : Beyond Coeliac Disease Toxicity ; Oral Glutenase Therapy for Celiac Sprue ; Inhibitors of Intestinal Barrier Dysfunction ; Development of a Vaccine for Celiac Disease, etc.

I do therefore recommend reading of this book to any clinician dealing with celiac patients to provide them with updated information (celiac patients know sometime more about progress in their disease than their practitioners !) and of course to researchers or fellows interested in provocative new concepts in disease pathogenesis, treatment and prevention that can be extrapolated to other immune-mediated pathologies.

*Pierre H. Deprez*  
Chief Editor AGEB.



### Grading and staging in gastroenterology.

TYTGAT G. N.J., TYTGAT S. H.A.J. 300 p with 220 figures. 2009 Georg Thieme Verlag, Rüdigerstrasse 14, 70469 Stuttgart Germany.

Grading and Staging in Gastroenterology is of utmost clinical importance.

Accurate grading and staging of lesions or other abnormalities is essential – for research purposes, – for proper diagnosis, – for accurate selection and monitoring of therapy and – for estimation of prognosis. So far an atlas with all relevant Grading and Staging systems in Gastroenterology-Hepatology did not exist.

The authors therefore took the initiative to produce the first synopsis, compiling most currently applied Grading and Staging systems in an easy yet comprehensive atlas. The authors felt that this lavishly illustrated mini-encyclopedia should be at hand-reach on the desk of every gastroenterology clinician or researcher.

The authors are confident that recipients of this novel Grading and Staging in Gastroenterology will be pleased with its contents, the many sketches and figures and the overall layout of this first edition, truly addressing an unmet need in Gastroenterology-Hepatology. The authors hope that this atlas will contribute to raise the standards of patient care and scientific endeavors.

Thieme Verlagsgruppe, the publisher of the atlas, and the authors did the utmost to keep the production costs to a minimum with substantial further reductions for bulk sales. Contact can be taken through the website : [www.thieme.com](http://www.thieme.com), [custserv@thieme.de](mailto:custserv@thieme.de), [customerservice@thieme.com](mailto:customerservice@thieme.com), for further information.

**Comments :**

This book is indeed filling a vacuum in our discipline and is a beautiful compilation of almost all grading and staging systems, and certainly of all the relevant ones. It covers generic, organ specific, and disease specific grading and staging systems. Comments are added when appropriate, but as reserved and objective as possible to enable users to judge for themselves. References are inserted after each system.

For example the book covers the grading systems in performance and mental status, organ failure, nutritional status, infectious disorders, caustic injury, quality of life assessments, anatomical variants for all digestive organs, inflammatory grading systems for each organ, neoplasia stages, liver dysfunction, pancreatitis...

The problem with such a compendium is that it might be difficult for a clinician or a researcher to decide which

scoring system to use. In the pancreas, nine disease severity scores are described and commented... But it is fair to say that the first step before using one of them is to get the possibility to compare them ! Another drawback is that even with such an impressive list of grading systems, the very expert will still miss the latest version or the most recent innovative score. The endosonographer for example will miss the scores developed for chronic pancreatitis...

I think we have to congratulate Guido and Staphaan Tytgat for this bright idea to assemble all staging systems in just one book that I really recommend you to acquire and to implement in clinical practice and research.

*Pierre Deprez*  
Chief Editor AGEB.