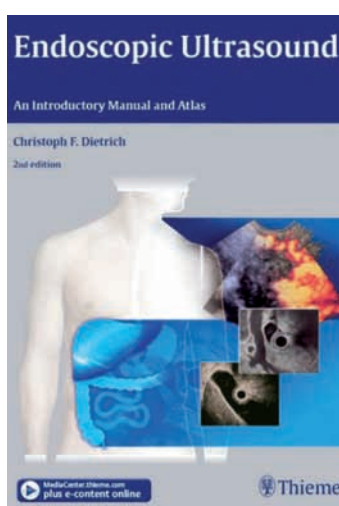


## BOOK REVIEW

**Endoscopic Ultrasound. An Introductory Manual and Atlas.** 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Christoph Frank Dietrich (Editor), VIII + 554 p, 1280 illustrations, hard cover, DVD included, 2011. Thieme publishers. ISBN 978-3-13-143152-3.



Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) is a relatively new diagnostic and therapeutic procedure that has developed a lot during the last years and that is now considered as one of the most essential and cost-effective techniques in the assessment of a wide range of gastrointestinal diseases.

Learning and practicing EUS is difficult and needs a high level

of anatomical knowledge and technical skills. With 1280 illustrations, the book “Endoscopic Ultrasound: An Introductory Manual and Atlas” is very comprehensive and well illustrated combining both, the qualities of a text book and an atlas helping in the learning of this technique. The title of the book is somehow misleading: it is more than just an introductory textbook. Topics elaborated are multiples and widely detailed, providing tips and tricks that may be useful for both beginners and confirmed endoscopic ultrasound practitioners.

The book is divided into five parts that cover many basic and specialized aspects of EUS. The first part describes the various techniques available (radial, longitudinal and intraductal endoscopic ultrasound,

miniprbes, sonoelastography, ultrasound contrast agents and contrast-enhanced ultrasonography). The second part mainly deals with EUS-guided biopsy with a lot of concrete information: first, about endoscopes and needles that are currently commercially available, second, about recommendations and procedures for biopsy, and, finally, about indications, complications, pitfalls, troubleshooting and the clinical impact of the procedures. The next two parts (almost 300 pages) are dedicated to the description of anomalies and the pathology of the gastrointestinal tract (including endoanal and endorectal sonography), the lungs and the mediastinum with many tables summarizing the information. The last part contains a description of additional applications such as EUS neurolysis of the celiac plexus and EUS-guided biliary drainage.

Each chapter is written by a group of expert gastroenterologists and endoscopists from Europe and Canada and provides up-to-date review of the literature.

The book includes a learning DVD with didactical video examples. The DVD is very easy to use but it is unfortunate that there are no oral comments.

Although the book is well structured, its volume (554 pages) and details make it sometimes difficult to have a systematic and synthetic approach of the technique. In addition, it is not possible to use it as a “pocket-book”.

This book is highly recommendable to readers who practice EUS and/or who would like a reference book in the field.

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