

BOOK REVIEW

Clinical Problems in Primary Care / Family Medicine: With Questions and Answers

Second edition 2007, Professor Dato R Balasundram

Professor of Family Medicine, Melaka Manipal Medical College, Jalan Batu Hampar, Bukit Baru, 75150 Melaka

This revised edition arrives some nine years after the original version and the author has to be commended for producing a tome that has improved in terms of utility but not lost any of its original charm. It remains a compilation of clinical problems the total number of which has increased from 250 to 275. As in the first edition, each description of the case is followed by a series of questions and answers. Although not intended to be an authoritative textbook, the spectrum covered is remarkably comprehensive and any family practitioner would be more than adequately equipped to cope with the rigors of primary care medicine if he or she were familiar with the topics exemplified by Professor

Balasundram's clinical cases. Adopting a problem orientated approach, the book makes easier reading than conventional textbooks. A sensible advance in this second edition was to classify the cases under various disciplines. This enhances its value as a reference book and as a means for quick revision. There is clear evidence that the information has been updated although it would be impossible and indeed undesirable for a book such as this to deal with the areas in greater detail. It remains a useful revision guide for undergraduates, post-graduates and practising clinicians.

Reviewed by: S Mahendra Raj