

**A Primer of Practical Ultrasound**

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Volume 1. Abdomen.

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The second edition of the book by Dr. Durr-e-Sabih, FRCP. FANMB. FAIUM. now also has. Dr. Quratulain Sabih, MD. FACS, consultant surgeon at the University of Pennsylvania, USA as a co-author. The addition of a practicing surgeon's perspective gives much needed clinical perspective to what an imaging physician alone might emphasise. As in the first edition, the book expects no prior ultrasound knowledge but takes the reader from very basic concepts to moderately advanced level of expertise.

The first few chapters describe basic physics, probe types and functions, machine controls to optimize images and also a description of the ultrasound screen when one first turns on the machine.

The book has about 460 pages and is profusely illustrated with over 1500 diagrams and actual ultrasound images. Many images are in the form of collages that exhibit the spectrum of findings in a particular disease. Each chapter starts with how to acquire appropriate sections for a system or organ, describes normal and common variants and goes on to pathological states. There are tables providing additional information. The book is extensively referenced for those who wish to delve deeper into the topics and exhaustively indexed to make finding a particular topic easy.

The authors have tried to support all concepts with illustrations or actual scans. The book can be used as a text and read from cover to cover, as a reference, or, given the large number of images, as an atlas of abdominal ultrasound.

Published by Paramount Books, Karachi on excellent quality glossy paper, the print is crisp, the line art clear and the scans detailed. Getting such quality from ultrasound scans in print is a feat at which the publishers deserve credit. Priced at Rs. 2290/- I think this is very much worth it.

Volume 1, deals with abdominal ultrasound but the other volumes dealing with Ob/Gyn ultrasound, small parts, Doppler and paediatrics are not in the market. I would hope that the authors are working to make all the volumes available soon.

This book would be useful to those who wish to learn ultrasound as well as those who are already doing it. Radiology residents, practitioners, students and paramedics would find it useful too. The language is simple and the style easy and even conversational.

A line from the preface caught my eye I have tried to write the book; I wish I had, when I was learning ultrasound. I believe the authors have eminently succeeded in making this a first and in many cases the only book on abdominal ultrasound one might need.

The author's quote sums up the philosophy of the book I have tried to write a book I wish I had when I was learning ultrasound