Handbook of Otolaryngic Allergy

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The 'Handbook of Otolaryngic Allergy' is a 279-page and 72 illustrations pocket-size handbook with contributions from four authors - all leading in this field - that discusses every aspect regarding allergy for otorhinolaryngologists. It is written for all practitioners at any stage of their careers - including residents dealing with allergy.

It mainly focusses on inhalant allergies, discussing its background, diagnosis and testing, allergy emergencies and the different treatment options. One part describes associated atopic disorders like penicillin allergy, asthma, food allergies and eosinophilic esophagitis. Finally, it covers practical advices like for example on setting-up an allergy office.

The 'clinical pearls' and 'how I do it' approaches result in a very clinician-friendly handbook. The short chapters are well-written, easy to understand and cover a complete overview of the clinically relevant essentials without elaborating too much on immunologic and technical details. Just a few minutes reading will get one up-to-date on the clinically relevant essentials, comparable with asking an expert colleague. Moreover, the authors show a nice sense of humor which makes this book an even greater pleasure to read. As the foreword of the book mentions, the authors have included answers to the most common posed questions by residents at lectures, as can be recognized by the subtitles and content of the different chapters.

The blue lined boxed emphasize what is important to remember in daily clinic and include pitfalls and helpful practical advices.

A nice extra is the free online version of the book, as nowadays more and more clinicians including residents use an e-reader when they want to consult a reference work or study book.

Important to realize is the fact that the book is written from a US perspective making some content, like the topic on billing and coding when setting up an allergy practice, USP 797, oral mucosal immunotherapy, calculation of allergen concentrations (vial mixing), not relevant outside the US.

Overall - although not all its content is applicable for countries outside the United States - this handbook is very clinician friendly and easy-to-read, delivering the answers you need in just a few minutes of pleasant reading.

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