

BOOK REVIEW

Infections of the ear, nose, throat, and sinuses. By Marlene L. Durand | Daniel G. Deschler

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Every year, millions of people worldwide suffer from infections of the ear, nose, throat, and sinuses. Remaining up-to-date on the appropriate management of the common infections in the head and neck is paramount especially with the emergence of resistant microorganisms that has been accelerated by the excessive use of antibiotics. The editors have taken on the daunting task of compiling a comprehensive guide to diagnosing and appropriately treating ear, nose, throat, and sinuses infections. The target audience for the book is practicing Otolaryngologists. For infectious disease specialists, this book may be a little too simplistic on topics including the principles of microbiology, nuances of rare infections, and antimicrobial stewardship.

This book spans over 400 pages and is divided into 30 chapters. There are abundant illustrations, tables, radiographic images, and clinical photographs providing a thorough discussion. The editors have brought together an outstanding group of experts to provide a comprehensive update on the diagnosis and management of otolaryngologic infections. Certain chapters deserve specific comment. The first three chapters serve as a great introduction and lay the framework outlining the breadth and depth of this field of study. They not only provide an excellent overview of the microbial coverage and clinical indications of common antibiotics used in otolaryngology, but also discuss current and emerging topics in the literature such as resistant microorganisms and the role of biofilms, which has now come into the mainstream approach of many therapeutic interventions.

The remaining chapters largely focus on the intricacies of both common and uncommon infections of the ears, sinus, nose, throat, mandible, salivary glands, lymph nodes, and deep neck spaces. Most of these chapters follow a generally uniform outline of introduction, epidemiology, diagnosis, pathophysiology and microbiology, and treatment options that is extremely easy to follow. The book, in particular, provides excellent summaries of the pathogenesis, microbiology, and therapeutic options of each infection that is discussed. For example, in the chapter on

chronic sinusitis, the author does a great job in portraying the complex active interplay among aberrant host-specific inflammatory responses, environmental factors, and various microbiology concepts including biofilms and microbiomes that contribute to the pathogenesis of chronic sinusitis, all in a well-structured manner. Moreover, the authors do a great job of citing up-to-date clinical practice guidelines on diagnosis and treatment of otolaryngologic infections. Many of the chapters have clinical photographs, colored illustrations of relevant anatomical structures, and helpful tables. For future editions, the editors may consider discussing certain topics in which additional clinical and basic science research is needed with a section entitled "Future Directions," as well as a comment on landmark articles in the field to help guide further reading.

Infections of the Ear, Nose, Throat and Sinuses is an excellent textbook and the practical utility of this book cannot be overstated. This book is brilliantly written and packed with valuable information for both quick reference and in-depth study. It is indispensable for the practicing Otolaryngologist and belongs in the library of every trainee in our field.

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