
This is the second edition of a classic book by a group of Japanese gastroenterologists under the direction of Professor Shirakabe. This group has been largely responsible for the development of double contrast examination of the stomach as it is now practiced throughout the world. The first edition opened the eyes of the world to the possibilities of radiologic, endoscopic, and pathologic diagnosis of early gastric cancer. The current edition has been expanded and greatly improved by the inclusion of chapters on other common gastric lesions, such as gastric ulcer and erosive gastritis, particularly in relation to their distinction from early gastric cancer. Many of the illustrative cases show subtle radiographic and pathologic lesions, and their understanding has been greatly enhanced by the increased use of arrows and circles.

The method used by these investigators is a meticulous radiologic-endoscopic-pathologic correlation, with the aim of achieving a "one-to-one" correspondence between the findings on the radiograph and macroscopic pathology as seen through the endoscope or in the resected specimen. This type of correlation extends well beyond the usual practice in American hospitals and requires unusual expertise and commitment to excellence in radiology, endoscopy, and pathology.

The highlight of this book is the exquisite quality of the radiographic illustrations and the precision of their analysis and interpretation. Many of the lesions illustrated are extremely subtle and may be difficult to appreciate even for the experienced radiologist, endoscopist, or pathologist. The experience described is from Tokyo and its vicinity, and the concepts described must be understood in the light of the high incidence of gastric cancer in Japan. It has not been shown that the application of similar techniques and concepts in North America results in an increased yield of early gastric cancer. Nevertheless, this volume stands as a shining example of the high standards achievable with the meticulous application of these correlation techniques. This book may be slow reading for American physicians because of its detailed analyses and descriptions and because of differences in terminology. This volume, however, is essential for radiologists, endoscopists, and pathologists who are seriously interested in the diagnosis and natural history of gastric cancer.

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If one regards human neoplasia, particularly in the gastrointestinal tract, as representing an interaction between genetic and environmental factors, then classical descriptive epidemiology has provided a great deal of our information about these interactions. To classical descriptive epidemiology has been added biochemical epidemiology and the contributions of genetics. Currently, there is great interest in extension and refinement of these studies.

This multiauthored review consists of 10 chapters, each providing a detailed review of the epidemiology of cancer at a particular site. References are exhaustive and up-to-date. At the end of each chapter, a section on future perspectives separate the authors' opinions, which are worthwhile, from the preceding factual information. The text is readable and well-supported by graphic data. There is little duplication except in the section on gallbladder cancer.

The chapter by Haenszel and Correa on the epidemiology of large bowel cancer is particularly informative. The authors propose the transforming of the epidemiology of large bowel cancer into the epidemiology of intestinal adenomas as a step toward learning about dietary factors in large bowel cancer. They also provide additional evidence from epidemiology favoring the transition of large bowel adenomas into cancer. A thorough review by Heath of the epidemiology of gastrointestinal lymphoma is also very rewarding. Muñoz and Linsell provide a timely and thorough chapter on risk factors in primary liver cancer; they have carefully documented the worldwide relationship of hepatocellular cancer to the hepatitis B virus. They extrapolate from their data to discuss concepts of prevention.

I found the text to be a useful, unified whole which deserves to be read by all interested in the etiology of gastrointestinal cancer. The price seems a bit excessive.

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A compilation of papers presented at the Cleveland Clinic on anorexia nervosa, this book is "intended to fill the void in the professional's awareness of the enigma of anorexia nervosa and bulimia." To me, some helpful
clinical insights are presented, but in general the book falls short of this goal.

On the positive side, some of the material reflects the experience of authors who have worked with hundreds of patients at their institution. The book is particularly strong in the clinical areas: medical education, nutritional assessment, and the various psychotherapies. The chapters on family issues, in-hospital therapy, milieu treatment, and group therapy are valuable for nonpsychiatrists. Some innovative treatment approaches are discussed (hynotherapy, biofeedback) which have theoretical value, but which require further study.

The major drawback is in the book's uneven content and style. This is frequent when chapters are from papers presented at a conference. Many chapters are opinion pieces (Dr. Gross's are notable for their insight and sensitivity), others present a brief literature review (hematologic changes), individual research (cardiac function), or topics that don't belong (failure to thrive in infants). Some important areas are almost entirely omitted. The gynecologic and endocrine aspects of anorexia nervosa are confined to three pages. There is very little academic discussion of the physiologic and medical aspects of nutritional deficiency seen in this disorder. The chapter "Anorexia and Gastrointestinal Disorders" does not discuss gastrointestinal consequences of anorexia nervosa. Rather, it is a compendium of diseases that purportedly mimic ("at least occasionally") the disorder.

The appendix lists professional resources by geographic location and gives information about a newly established patient support group. The book is very well-referenced. This book may be of value to students, physicians, and health care workers interested in learning the clinical aspects of the disorder and some of the psychotherapeutic approaches. It does not have direct relevance to the work of clinical or academic gastroenterologists.

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This book gives a concise and clearly written personalized approach to psychologic treatment of patients with anorexia nervosa and bulimia. The author is a psychotherapist with a recently successful novel and television movie about this disorder. The Best Little Girl in the World. Dr. Levenkron begins with the premise, well-supported in the psychiatric literature, that anorexia nervosa is a heterogeneous behavioral disorder of multiple (personal, family, society) etiology. The dieting, vomiting, and obsessive preoccupation with food and weight control reflect underlying deficits in personality. These patients have a poorly developed sense of autonomy, and this results in interpersonal difficulties. His treatment approach is to permit the patient to become dependent on the therapist, and then once trust is established, to gradually encourage the patient to take more responsibility for personal actions. His technique differs from traditional psychotherapy by emphasis on the therapist's providing more emotional support and more explicitly setting up guidelines for patient behavior.

The book is intended for a large audience: therapists, patients, their families, and the general public. Through the use of six case dialogues, the author successfully presents complex psychologic material in a concise and, at times, dramatic fashion. This approach, however, oversimplifies; the information is poorly documented, and many medical personnel working with these patients will find the scope incomplete. Taken as an opinion piece by an experienced therapist, the book is informative and interesting. It can be recommended for nonprofessionals.

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As the title implies, this book deals with gastrointestinal mucosal injury and factors that modify or prevent it. Although the book is aimed at clinicians as well as investigators, there is little that will impact on the practicing gastroenterologist or surgeon. There are 28 chapters, grouped into six sections dealing with kinetics, ischemia, gastric mucosal "barrier breakers," prostaglandins, bicarbonate and mucus, and an epilogue by Charles Code on the mechanism of gastric mucosal protection. This book suffers from a problem common to multiauthor efforts—a lack of uniformity in style and approach to the subject matter. The editor encouraged his 43 contributors to add a speculative paragraph or two. Many did so, and this enlivens the text and creates a common thread; but it is merely a thread, and there is no escape from the fact that this reads like a symposium proceedings.

The major drawback of the book, however, is that while it attempts to deal with the entire gastrointestinal tract, it falls far short of thoroughness in all areas except the stomach. The editor would have produced a more impressive and cohesive work if he had confined its scope to the stomach and duodenum. This has been recognized by the contributors—for example, at the end of his scholarly account of the intestinal unstirred water layer. Thomson attempts to relate this to the stomach.

With few exceptions, the contributions are authoritative and well-documented. Some are extensive reviews, others are the report of a single experimental study, and several are merely editorial comments. The volume is well-produced and illustrated, although the format and print size make it uncomfortable to read. The price is reasonable. This book is already somewhat out-of-date, and much of the material has already been published elsewhere, but