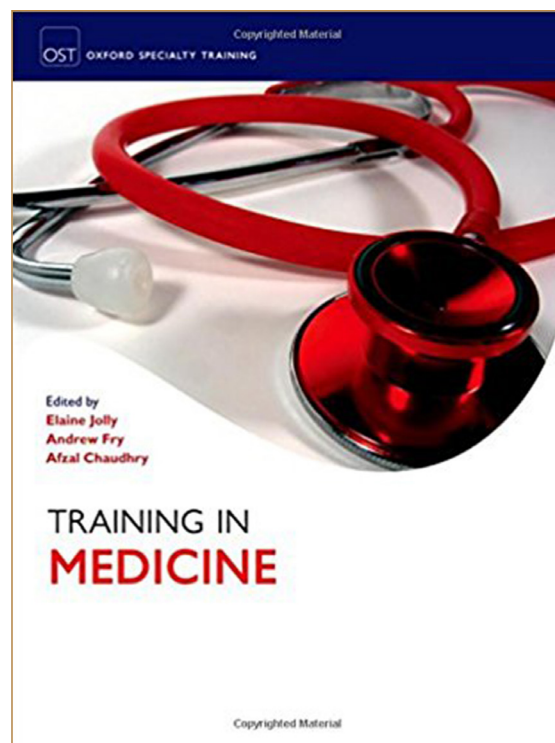


Training in Medicine – Oxford University Press, 2016 Edited by Elaine Jolly, Andrew Fry and Afzal Chaudhry

When I first saw the title of this book, my initial assumption was that it was a training 'guidebook' – one of those texts which aims to help trainees to navigate their way through the treacherous waters of work-life balance, ARCPs, e-portfolio and so on. In this regard the title is misleading – this is in fact a medical text book, aimed at those undertaking 'early years speciality training' with a particular focus on Core Medical Training. Published in 2016, it is the most recent addition in of a series of books produced by Oxford University Press, whose other titles include Training in Anaesthesia, Ophthalmology and Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

The book comprises 886 pages, divided into 21 chapters which cover each of the major organ systems. In addition there are specific chapters for care of the elderly medicine, epidemiology / evidenced based medicine (including a section on 'how to read a paper'), communication and ethics. There is no specific chapter on palliative care, which is surprising given the large number of patients presenting to medical teams for whom this is a key priority; sections on end-of-life care and symptom control are, however, included in the 'oncology' chapter.

A key feature of the book is the layout which affords most conditions a double page spread. The format is relatively consistent across the various chapters, despite a large number of different contributors being involved. The clinical features, investigations and management are mostly described with the aid of bullet point lists, which lend themselves well to those



who are revising for speciality examinations. The level of detail in most chapters appears suitable for the MRCP examination, particularly if supplemented by an additional desk reference text book. There are a large number of high quality colour pictures and diagrams, which break up the text in an attractive way.

At £59.99, this book is marginally more expensive than the latest edition of Kumar and Clark's 'Clinical Medicine' which was also published in 2016, and aimed at a similar market. For those working towards MRCP, and in particular those clinicians who like to learn from lists and bullets, I believe it will be a welcome addition to the available options.

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