

**Non-Neoplastic Disorders of the Lower Respiratory Tract.** William D Travis MD, Thomas V Colby MD, Michael N Koss MD, Melissa L Rosado-de-Christenson Col USAF MC, Nestor L Müller MD PhD, Talmadge E King Jr MD. (Atlas of Nontumor Pathology, First Series, Fascicle 2, Series Editor, Donald West King MD). Washington DC: American Registry of Pathology. 2002. Hard cover, illustrated, 939 pages, \$195.

The topic of non-neoplastic lung disease continues to be one of the most difficult and vexing areas in pulmonary medicine. Of the many good monographs, atlases, and other media that have attempted to tackle this vast topic, most are limited in depth and breadth and lack correlation of the clinical, radiology, and pathology findings. Until now there has not been a solitary reference book that can be used to wade through these deep and treacherous waters. Fortunately, this magnificent work fills that void admirably.

This hardbound book is the second fascicle in a new series of monographs that continues on the excellent tradition of the *Atlas of Tumor Pathology*, published by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP). Like its soft-covered counterparts on neoplastic disease, this new work is an extremely comprehensive and encyclopedic treatise that covers all aspects of non-neoplastic lung disease.

There are 18 chapters, covering an extremely broad array of topics. The first 2 chapters set the tone of the book. Chapter 1 succinctly covers embryology, anatomy, and histology. It is in the best interest of the reader not to overlook this most informative review of normal structure, which is critical to understanding the other topics that follow. Chapter 2 covers the importance of the clinical-radiology-pathology correlation and details the handling and processing of bronchoalveolar lavage and lung biopsy specimens. This chapter also includes a very important discussion of the general principles of lung biopsy interpretation, an overview of diverse histopathologic lung injury patterns, and tissue artifacts and incidental lesions that may occur in lung biopsy specimens.

The next 16 chapters cover a wide spectrum of topics in non-neoplastic lung and pleural diseases. The approach is multidisciplinary, as each topic is subdivided with the following key headings: definition, clinical features, radiology findings, pathology findings, and differential diagnosis. Some chapters also include pathogenesis, treatment, and prognosis.

One of the greatest strengths of this book is in its lavish illustrations. The text is rich with tables, diagrams, and superb illustrations, of which the majority are in color (1,185 color and 284 black-and-white). This is no surprise to devotees of the soft-covered *Atlas of Tumor Pathology*, since the photographic and medical illustration departments at the AFIP are world-renowned. The majority of gross and microscopic photographs are in full color, razor sharp, and superbly reproduced. However, the chest radiographs, high-resolution computed tomograms, magnetic resonance scans, and ultrasound images are not as well utilized for each topic, and the quality of these images is quite variable.

Each chapter ends with a complete set of references, in alphabetical order and broken into subheadings. The majority of references are up to date, with a few citations from 2002, as well as classic articles from the mid-20th century. The index is easy to use, and the illustrations and tables are emphasized with boldface type.

A feature of this book is that its entire contents are available on the Internet. The original purchaser of the book is provided with a unique identifier code that allows for free Internet access to this virtual text. The on-line version features pop-up thumbnail illustrations (which are expandable to a full-screen view), a "smart index" that features more in-depth searches, and references that link directly to MEDLINE for retrieval of literature citations. Moreover, electronic access allows for easy cross-indexing within the various AFIP neoplastic and non-neoplastic fascicles that will be published in the near future.

This book is more expensive than the other AFIP fascicles, at a price of \$195. Discounts of up to 30% are available to residents/fellows, subscribers of various AFIP series, and selected military person-

nel. Considering the costs of producing a hardbound book of this size with color plates, this price is not excessive and is competitive with other textbooks of pulmonary pathology.

In summary, **Non-Neoplastic Disorders of the Lower Respiratory Tract** continues the excellence in the series of text-atlases produced by the AFIP. It would be most useful for pathologists, pulmonologists, thoracic surgeons, radiologists, and others interested in a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to the study of non-neoplastic lung diseases.

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**Management of Respiratory Tract Infections**, 3rd edition. John G Bartlett MD. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. 2001. Soft cover, illustrated, 277 pages, \$19.95.

**Management of Respiratory Tract Infections**, by John Bartlett, now in its third edition, is a very brief but surprisingly complete textbook of common infections of the respiratory tract. The book is very well outlined and referenced, with 5 main chapters: "Pneumonia," "Acute and Chronic Cough Syndromes," "The Common Cold," "Streptococcal Pharyngitis," and "Sinusitis." At just over 270 pages (including references and tables), this book can easily be read in its entirety in just a few sittings. In fact, this is probably the best use of the book, as an educational tool for those beginning their careers in health care. The information presented is so elemental to the practice of medicine that it should be little more than a review to the experienced practitioner.

Each chapter is organized into sections, each of which is introduced by a "snapshot summary" that highlights, in a bullet format, the main points of the ensuing text. The book has clear and concise text and