BOOK REVIEW

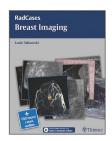
Rad Cases: Breast imaging

Author: Lonie Salkowski

Publisher: Thieme Medical Publishers, Inc

Year: 2014 Pages: 209 pages

ISBN: 978-1-60406-191-8



This book has 100 cases of Breast Imaging - which includes mammography, ultrasonography (USG) as well as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Also, buying the book gives you a year of free online access to a database of 250 (i.e. 150 additional) cases.

There is a wide spectrum of cases, but in the breast - since the pathology is quite limited-quite a few are repeated. It is put forward in a very easy to read format. The right side page explains the clinical presentation and the images whereas the next left page (so that its not easy to cheat oneself) describes the Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System (BIRADS category), the differential diagnosis (3, out of which the 1st one is the diagnosis), certain Essential Facts-mainly clinical, pertaining to the case as well as Pearls and Pitfalls with the plus and minus points regarding the pathology and its clinical and imaging repercussions.

It is a comprehensive book, which covers almost all the diseases of the breast-what they look like on imaging-what can be done to recognize them-as well as the pathological and the clinical applications of the Imaging diagnosis! Its easy on the eye in a point format-the pearls and the pitfalls section is especially relevant. Also it's nice to pause and think about the case before turning the page and looking at the actual diagnosis. Even where the same diagnosis is repeated-the essential facts and pearls and pitfalls are different-teaching us something new with every turn of page!

Adrawback is reproducing high-resolution mammographic images printed on paper. What one sees on the monitor or even on the film just doesn't translate to seeing it on paper. However-the images on the online version are much better. Also, the 5th edition of BIRADS was out after this book got published, also mentioned by Dr. Salkowski in the preface. Its difficult to read more than few cases at a time due to a bit of sensory overload, especially if one is trying to retain everything that's written in the book.

It is not really meant for gaining an in-depth knowledge of a particular topic. However, it's great for residents and even consultants who want to specialize in Breast imaging.

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