HEALTH ECONOMICS/BOOK REVIEWS


41 McIntosh E, Donaldson C, Ryan M. Recent advances in the methods of cost-benefit analysis in healthcare: how good is the art to the science. Pharmacoeconomics 1999; 15: 357–367.


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**Book Reviews**


This cheap, pocket-sized book’s very tempting premise is that it will give readers an overview of all of gynaecological diagnosis and management using ultrasoundography. It is written by an ultrasonographer and an obstetrician/gynaecologist practising in India, and is aimed at a mixed readership. Very short chapters cover the principles of ultrasound and normal female anatomy, before going on to illustration-rich chapters on the use of ultrasound in pregnancies with abnormal results or high-risk pregnancies will be much better informed having read this book. It is certainly superior to the random business of surfing the Internet for information. Medical professionals might also appreciate this book and feel better prepared to discuss abnormal results with couples.


This slim volume is one of a series of medical titles aimed at the public and promising “all the facts you need – straight from the experts”. In this case the experts are obstetricians practising in Australia and the USA; the target audience is pregnant women in Australia, the UK and USA.

In these countries, increasingly sophisticated tests are offered to pregnant women; yet the interpretation, risks and benefits of these tests are often misunderstood. Women are asked to make choices about which tests they wish to take – and may have to consider paying for some or all tests.

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