Book Review

Teaching Ambulatory Medicine Moving Medical Education into the Office

Authors: Samuel C. Durso

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Overall rating: Very good

Strength:

Well written, with many practical examples throughout the book and excellent follow of information. Each chapter has a good summary at the end.

Weakness:

Written from an American perspective and the last chapter on evaluation says very little on how to evaluate the teacher.

Audience: Ambulatory care teachers

his book begins with the authors own experience in the ambulatory teaching environment, from and goes on to explain how he developed himself into an effective ambulatory teacher. The book is a good tool for physicians who need to make a transition from bedside teaching to the ambulatory setting. The author also highlights the great benefits of ambulatory teaching, to both teachers and learners that may be derived from this educational experience.

The book covers a range of issues involved in ambulatory teaching, starting from office setting to what to teach and how to teach. The book pays particular emphasis on the suitability of ambulatory setting to target teaching areas that are often neglected: direct observation, longitudinal care, prevention and communication skills. The last chapter focuses on critical issues related to evaluation and feedback. It stresses the need to have effective evaluation metrics and the need to provide accurate and constructive feedback. There is adequate use of references throughout the book, but unfortunately some apply to the American setting only.

In summary, this short book is very useful and practical. It addresses most of the issues related to teaching in ambulatory setting, introduces concepts and tools, and provides an excellent introduction to the basics of ambulatory teaching.

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