

BOOK REVIEWS

Title: *Guide to Evidence-Based Physical Therapy*

Author: Dianne V. Jewell

Publisher: Jones and Bartlett Publishers

Year: 2008

Type—paper/hard: Paperback

#Pages: 479

ISBN: 978-0-7637-3443-5

Focus of Book/Intention: The intention of this book is to provide non-researchers an understanding of studies. The book is designed for clinical application, by evaluating evidence with regards to specific patient care.

Intended Audience: The author states the intended audience is for students and clinicians as a guide to evidence based physical therapy practice.

Description (chapters/format): The book is organized into four distinct sections.

1. Principles of Evidence-Based Physical Therapy
2. Elements of Evidence
3. Appraising the Evidence
4. Evidence in Practice

The first section covers the history of the Evidence-Based movement in healthcare then defines 1) evidence-Based Practice, 2) evidence and the different forms of evidence, 3) how to formulate a question, and 4) covers electronic databases. The second section discusses the purpose and characteristics of a research question, background information, biological plausibility, and the uses of null and research hypotheses. This section also addresses research design, research subjects, variables and how to measure them, research validity, and understanding statistics and corresponding tools. The third section

discusses the evidence behind; diagnostic tests and how to measure the test value, a prognosis, interventions, outcomes, and systematic reviews and practice guidelines. The fourth section addresses evidence in practice with regards to patient/client preferences and values and applying evidence-based medicine in clinical practice.

Strengths: The book is a resource for clinicians and students interested in understanding evidence within the physical therapy practice.

Unique Characteristics: The step by step process the author offers for understanding evidence-based practice. A list of terms and definitions are located at the beginning of each chapter.

Amy E Cook MS, PT

Title: *Special Tests for Orthopedic Examination 3rd Edition*

Author: Jeff G. Konin, Denise Wiksten, Jerome Isear, Jr., and Holly Brader

Publisher: SLACK Incorporated

Year: 2006

Type: Paper (spiral bound) handbook

Number of Pages: 374

ISBN: 978-1-55642-741-1

Focus: To provide an accumulation of currently used tests, some commonly documented, some not necessarily proven reliable/valid through peer-reviewed studies. A new section called “contemporary special tests” which consists of proposed new (unstudied) tests for clinicians to use that the authors have used in the clinic.

Intended Audience: Students, clinicians, and rehab professionals.

Description: This book is organized into eleven sections covering the extremities and spine, specifically the following: temporomandibular, cervical spine, shoulder, elbow, wrist and hand, thoracic spine, lumbar spine, sacral spine, hip, knee, and ankle/foot. Section 12 is a section in which the authors offer “contemporary special tests”. Each test follows the provided format: Test Positioning, Action, Positive Finding, Special Considerations/comments, and References (there are no references offered for the “contemporary special tests”).

Strengths: Spiral bound, clear images, simplistic, yet detailed descriptions. Literature review is offered on the tests, excluding the “contemporary special tests”.

Limitations: The included special tests were chosen based on the authors’ opinions, readers’ feedback from earlier editions, and lack of evidence in the literature to support the test. Some tests were chosen because of popularity and clinical discussion overruled lack of evidence for inclusion of some tests.

Unique Characteristics: The textbook is a pocket-sized spiral bound handbook for ease in the clinical environment. Directional arrows are provided in the illustrations for proper subject and clinician positioning and movement.

Summary: The format of this textbook offers hands-on book for use in the clinic as a guide to some orthopedic special tests with basic instructions and clear illustrations on the steps and positioning for the included tests

Amy E Cook MS, PT