

BOOK REVIEW

A Practitioner's Guide to Pilonidal Sinus Disease

Author: Pravin Jaiprakash Gupta (Fine Morning Hospital and Research Center, Gupta Nursing Home, Nagpur, India)

A Practitioners Guide to Pilonidal Sinus Disease by Pravin J. Gupta is a hybrid between a definitive textbook and a working handbook. It is comprehensive and detailed enough to be the former, well written, illustrated and referenced with a complete bibliography. On the other hand it is relatively small, but by no means brief, totaling 92 pages which could be considered the latter.

Pilonidal disease is well suited for such a monogram. It is a distinct disease entity affecting a large population of young patients and prone to persistence or recurrence after surgery, which could be disturbing and disappointing for both patients and their physicians/ surgeons.

This book has clearly defined chapters covering topics such as pathophysiology, presentation, management, surgical treatment and postoperative care. An interesting addendum is that rarer pilonidal disease occurring in other parts of the body. These oddities are well described and illustrated.

This monogram is suitable for physicians and surgeons alike. The physician can benefit from the chapters on management and postoperative care, while surgeons will enjoy the descriptions and illustrations of different surgical techniques described herein. Having personally suffered from this illness for many years, and having undergone two operations some decades ago, I wish this volume was available then to guide me through my postoperative care and better yet for the surgeon to have done the right procedure.

A Practitioners Guide to Pilonidal Sinus Disease by Pravin J. Gupta is a little gem, easy to read and refer to and should be included in the collections of medical libraries, generalists and specialists alike.

Review provided by Herand Abcarian, M.D., FACS.