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Pocket EMG

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Pocket EMG is ultimately another bow in the quiver of references available to Clinical Neurophysiology laboratories. The primary benefit is one of size and is the smallest, most portable EMG reference I have handled... There is certainly no extraneous or unnecessary information clogging up the text, and the table of contents and index are well organized, making it very easy to quickly find the information needed.--Eliot Dimberg, MD, Mayo Clinic, Journal of Clinical Neurophysiology

Get immediate access to crucial information about the most common EMG studies. This handy, practical resource designed for quick reference at the point of care covers a wide spectrum of electrodiagnostic tests. Written for both novice and experienced electromyographers, this at-a-glance guide is concise enough to fit in a pocket, yet replete with essential technical detail, pearls, and clinical photos to illustrate proper study set-ups. Pocket EMG covers what you need to know to successfully perform nerve conduction and needle EMG studies in a fast-paced clinical environment. It also includes helpful protocols for specific clinical problems. The first section is devoted to nerve conduction studies and covers sensory and motor studies of the upper and lower extremities, late responses, and other tests including facial motor nerves, blink reflex, and repetitive nerve stimulation. Section two covers needle electromyography and catalogs set-ups for upper and lower extremity tests, paraspinals, and facial muscles. The final two sections contain study protocols for presenting chief complaints or suspected diagnoses, normal values, and high-yield tables and lists. Each test includes a photograph of the proper set-up, indications for performing the test, technical pointers, and physiological considerations. Key Features: Organized consistently and pocket-sized for quick reference in the EMG lab Includes a photo of the proper set-up for each test, indications for performing the test, and clinical pearls and pointers to enhance skills Contains study protocols for common complaints, normal value ranges for individual tests, and high-yield tables and lists

Book Information

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Great pocket reference book.

It is small but power book

A good small book for looking at EMG points and NCS

To begin, I am an academic physiatrist at a major hospital and work with PM&R residents and medical students on a regular basis. This book does not try to replace the standard electrodiagnostic texts. Rather, it is meant to be used as an "on-the-fly" quick reference. To that end I think that the authors have been quite successful. The book is organized into three sections: 1) common and more esoteric nerve conduction studies, 2) needle electromyography atlas, 3) 'protocol' studies for specific diagnoses. Each of the nerve conduction studies and the needle test occupies one page with very clear and succinct descriptions.

PROS (+)
I enjoyed the logical organization and the size of this pocketpedia. It is rather portable which is important. Although electromyographers from all stages of training and experience can benefit from this book I feel that neurology and physical medicine & rehabilitation residents especially would find this book indispensable. I think the clinical pearls with each study are very high-yield for inservice exams and written/oral board examinations.

CONS (-)
I realize this book is not meant to replace the bulkier Preston & Shapiro or an anatomical guide by Perotto. Perotto is a needle EMG reference book - hard-cover, >300 pages. Each muscle in Perotto is presented with two hand-drawn diagrams: first with the muscle outlined in the plane of needle insertion and second with an axial or cross section of
that body part. This helps to visualize the muscle in 3-D. Wisotzky’s book has an easy-to-read instructions on origins / insertions / how to activate the tested muscle as I would expect. However there is only one photograph per muscle. Typically this shows a needle adjacent to the muscle being assessed. This is an understandable drawback to having a smaller reference book. The examiner would need to have a working knowledge or basic familiarity of muscle anatomy and not be entirely reliant on this book minutes before the study.

**CONCLUSION**

In all, I think this is an excellently compiled reference especially for budding electromyographers. I know this would have definitely helped me during my training if I it back then. I encourage interested buyers to go through the ‘book preview’ as offered by  or flip through it if you have access to a physical copy.
Guide, 3rd: Compact and practical pocket guides for sun seekers and city breakers (Thomas Cook Pocket Guides)