

Medical Management of Glaucoma

James C. Tsai and Max Forbes, Professional Communication Inc, Oklahoma; 2003.

240 pages

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Synopsis: *Medical Management of Glaucoma* is a practical, clinical guide for the treatment of primary open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension. The book is a clear, up to date manual for the general ophthalmologist or residents in training.

Target Audience: General ophthalmologists, ophthalmologists in training and family practitioners.

Review: The authors of this textbook, James C. Tsai and Max Forbes, are both experienced and well-known glaucoma sub-specialists. Although the book does not indicate the target audience, it appears to be directed towards ophthalmologists who need an overall update on glaucoma, first year residents who are beginning their education and family practitioners to inform them of this disease.

This book accomplishes its purpose in being a clear, general guideline for the management of glaucoma. The book has the advantage of emphasizing information that an ophthalmologist would most commonly need, focusing on the diagnosis and management of primary open-angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension. In doing so, the bulk of the book's 18 chapters (240 pages) concentrate on the ocular exam, physical findings and testing, and the treatment of elevated intraocular pressure. Several additional chapters provide overviews of other common primary and secondary glaucoma, as well as complications from laser and conventional glaucoma surgery.

Another important feature of the text is that its information is based on the major clinical glaucoma studies that have been published in the past few years. Although it was not designed to provide an in-depth guide to the literature, several complete chapters are devoted to describing recent landmark studies that demonstrate the importance of reducing the intraocular pressure, as well as comparative trials between medical glaucoma treatments. Consequently, the authors tend to stay away from supporting, unproven treatment and diagnostic modalities. Accordingly, this format gives the reader a sense of gaining knowledge that would be provided at major medical conferences.

Although succinct and practical, the text is not a complete "how to" guide that would indicate the exact: diagnostic equipment to buy, medical or surgical indications for treatment, how to account for corneal thickness in clinical practice, or a complete surgical and post-operative guide. However, the book is a lucid manual that will provide useful guidance and will help update practitioners about many problems faced in routine clinical glaucoma practice.

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