



Books and other media

Livres et autres documents

Breastfeeding (CD-ROM)

For Windows® 3.1x and Macintosh® 95. Corel®
Medical Series. Corel Corporation, Ottawa.
1996. \$85.59.

Overall rating:	Good
Strengths:	Reviews key features
Weaknesses:	Misses Canadian data; a bit cumbersome to use
Audience:	Health professionals and mothers who are breastfeeding or considering breastfeeding

This multi-media CD-ROM provides information on a variety of topics: history and evolution; physical and scientific aspects; health issues; special situations; breastfeeding management; societal perspectives; individual perspectives and a database. The main menu outlines the topics, the "search and retrieval" enables the user to find and move to any subject with ease, and the format is user-friendly. The authors are experienced lactation consultants.

This is the first CD-ROM on breastfeeding that I have used. The interface is a little cumbersome, but I soon got used to the graphics, video and written texts. The accompanying booklet is rudimentary but helpful.

The "Breastfeeding management" section is comprehensive and practical. I also liked the simple one-page texts, easy access to references, the review of the physiology of breastfeeding and some of the slides and graphics. Some sections provide a lot of information, and some topics (e.g., latching) are covered so well that they could be an excellent first-line resource. The "Special situations" section, which deals with situations

where caution is indicated before breastfeeding is considered (e.g., maternal drug use, environmental contamination, breast surgery), provides many excellent references and suggestions that could facilitate improved access to advice and care.

Web sites could be provided to enable the user to access key resources mentioned (e.g., Mother Infant Risk Clinic). I was a little disappointed in the lack of Canadian data and resources. Although it's clear that this CD-ROM was developed for an international audience, the authors are Canadian. Some reference to Canadian breastfeeding rates, hospital practices and policies, or the Breastfeeding Committee for Canada would have been helpful.

The section on societal perspectives explores the role of the lactation consultant but doesn't address the need to improve the knowledge and skills of all professionals who care for pregnant women and new mothers. A few segments of audio-visual video are gadgety and unnecessary. The material prints in a plain format, and the charting forms that facilitate postpartum care are unimaginative.

I recommend this CD-ROM as a good resource for health professionals and parents. Although a good textbook can do as much and more than an electronic approach, this CD-ROM will help teach breastfeeding in undergraduate, resident, nursing and midwifery settings.

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Books and other media received

Livres et autres documents reçus

Emergency medicine

ECG Interpretation for Emergency Medicine. A Self Assessment Guide. F. Morris, R.C. Jenkins, J.M. Ahmed, D.C. Crossman. 139 pp. Illust. Butterworth-Heinemann. 1998. US\$35. ISBN 0-7506-3019-1

Geriatrics

Neuroimaging and the Psychiatry of Late Life. Edited by D. Ames, E. Chiu. 237 pp. Illust. Cambridge U Pr. 1997. US\$95. ISBN 0-521-49505-9

HIV / AIDS

Working on a Miracle. M. Johnson, J. Olshan. 301 pp. Bantam Books. 1997. \$19.95. ISBN 0-553-37934-8 [Also available on BDD audio cassette.]

Internal medicine

Sleisenger and Fordtran's Gastrointestinal and Liver Disease: Pathophysiology, Diagnosis, Management. 6th ed. 2-vol. set. Revised edition of *Gastrointestinal Disease*, 5th ed., 1993. Edited by M. Feldman, B.F. Scharschmidt, M.H. Sleisenger. 2046 pp. Illust. Harcourt Brace. 1998. \$293 (set). ISBN 0-7216-6291-9 (set); 0-7216-6292-7 (vol. 1); 0-7216-6293-5 (vol. 2)

Pharmacology

Mosby's 1998 Medical Drug Reference. A.J. Ellsworth, D.M. Wittn, D.C. Dugdale, L.M. Oliver. 994 pp. Harcourt Brace. 1998. \$44.95. ISBN 0-8151-0316-6