The only aspects of gynecological ultrasound considered are ectopic pregnancy and follicular assessment. In their preface the authors state "our literature scan does not produce new enough information regarding ultrasound efficiency in finding pelvic tumors to warrant a chapter on this subject." Few would agree that ultrasound has no role in pelvic tumor assessment. It is valuable not only in confirming that a mass is present when the clinical findings are debatable, but also in showing the nature of a mass. In the menstruating woman masses that do not contain internal echoes should be left untreated for a couple of menstrual cycles and followed, but those which contain a great deal of internal complex material are not going to resolve spontaneously. In the menopausal woman, one can demonstrate otherwise undetectable ovarian masses. Quantifying the size of fibroids is another area of value, since some now treat fibroids conservatively.

Considering this book solely from the point of view of obstetrical ultrasound (which is the only way it can be considered), one has to consider it "patchy." The virtue of the first edition was that it was a simple, accurate, and easy-to-read review of obstetrical and gynecological ultrasound. This attribute is no longer entirely true. Particularly strong and appropriate chapters are devoted to dating and interventional techniques; however, placental aging, nonimmune hydrops, and molar pregnancy with coincident pregnancy are dealt with in great detail, whereas the usual hydatidiform mole appearances and ectopic pregnancy are barely considered at all. There is, for example, no description of the variety of ectopic pregnancy in which there is bleeding around the uterus giving the so-called "pseudo uterine" appearance.

A number of controversial statements are made, which I do not think are generally accepted, e.g., the total intrauterine volume is considered in some detail; a technique that has been generally abandoned. Other controversial areas are a consideration of the value of stating the placental site ("of no use") and the management of second trimester placenta previa ("don't bother to rescan in the third trimester").

It is, all in all, an enjoyable book, but is is hard to know where to place it, since the information contained is variable in depth. It includes a number of original observations from the Yale group, but it neglects some rather basic facets of obstetrical ultrasound and, of course, almost completely overlooks the field of gynecological ultrasound.

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