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## Book review

### **Ankylosing Spondylitis - Axial Spondyloarthritis (2nd ed.)**

*Editors: Muhammad Asim Khan, Nurullah Akkoç*

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The term axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA) describes a group of chronic inflammatory rheumatic diseases primarily involving the axial skeleton. These are divided into ankylosing spondylitis (or radiographic axSpA) and non-radiographic axSpA on the basis of the presence or absence of radiographically detected changes in the sacroiliac joints and/or spine. The presenting clinical manifestations of axSpA are heterogeneous and patients often encounter diagnosis delays and misdiagnoses. Reducing non-rheumatology consults and to appropriately refer patients are critical in preventing irreversible joint damage and preserving mobility.

*Ankylosing Spondylitis - Axial Spondyloarthritis* is a clear review book representing a reference for not only rheumatologists but also for GPs and all health care workers interested in the wide field of back pain. This book covers all aspects of axSpA including clinical features (musculoskeletal and extra-musculoskeletal manifestations), early diagnosis with emphasis on the role of imaging, and current treatment options including the latest innovative therapies (biologics and small molecules). The authors masterfully address all these

topics with an evidence-based approach largely improved by practical information derived by their longstanding clinical experience.

The material is organised in 22 amply illustrated chapters with colour photographs, graphs and diagrams. Most noteworthy are the two unique chapters on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the care of patients with axSpA and illustrative case series. At the end, the reader will be able to diagnose and treat effectively through exhaustive reviews of these complex disorders.

In conclusion, the book written by Muhammad Asim Khan and Nurullah Akkoç, two leading clinicians and scientists in the field, is a must-have for any physician caring for patients with axial spondyloarthritis.

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