
Christine L. Allison, OD, FAAO, FCOVD
Illinois College of Optometry


There are two sections to this book. The first section is entitled: Quick Reference Section, and it is just what the title implies. There are 5 chapters in this section: Ocular Microbiology, Common Laboratory Tests and Procedures, Ophthalmologic Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests, Ocular Side Effects of Systemic Medications, and Pharmaceutical Agents. This section is a great review for those tests that you do not use regularly. The chapter on Ocular Side Effects of Systemic Medications is a simple review of medications in table formats. It is a succinct way to look things up quickly, and may be even faster than searching on the computer since the format is so simple to use.

The second section of the book focuses on Ocular Therapeutics and contains seventeen chapters divided into particular types of diseases, such as infectious diseases, viral infections diseases, and immune disease. Each disease is broken into pathophysiology, etiology, patient symptoms, clinical signs, demographics, significant history, ancillary tests, and treatment. Thus there is a brief (but thorough) written description on each of the conditions listed in the text. The consistent format used in the text makes it a clear choice for quickly looking up a condition. Many of the diseases are presented with a photo, but not all. It would be great to have more photos in the text, but that would make it measurably longer and thus less of a chair-side tool. One of the things that is most handy about this book, is that for each condition, the ICD code is listed directly underneath the title of the condition. This is a huge time saver for the busy clinician.

Ocular Therapeutics Handbook, 3rd Edition by Onofrey, Skorin, and Holdeman is a great book to buy for a succinct yet thorough reference. The book is most appropriate for the clinician looking to have a text handy for quick answers to complex questions.

References
1. http://goo.gl/IfV1c