**BOOK REVIEW**

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**Clinical Prediction Rules: A Physical Therapy Reference Manual**

Paul E. Glynn, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, P. Cody Weisbach, PT, DPT; Sudbury, Mass; Jones & Bartlett; 2009; 248 pages; softcover; $70.95

Clinical Prediction Rules: A Physical Therapy Reference Manual is a successful attempt to provide clinicians with a source that summarizes a variety of clinical prediction rules (CPRs) related to the diagnostic, prognostic, and interventional components associated with this information. The authors have provided readers with foundational information related to types of CPRs and have summarized information concerning some of the important statistical components included within these types of studies. This text would be beneficial for any health care provider who provides patient care across a variety of conditions.

The text is organized into 9 chapters and includes appendices encompassing the assessment of CPRs. The first chapter is an introduction of CPRs and provides information about how they are developed through the 3-step process of derivation, validation, and impact analysis. The chapter also includes common methodological shortcomings of CPR derivation studies and content related to CPR quality assessment.

Chapter 2 provides the reader with an overview as to how to use the text information to guide clinical practice decision making. The authors emphasize that these rules can be used to eliminate some of the uncertainty that occurs with patient care, while also providing additional guidance about variables that may be applicable to patients across the lifespan.

Chapter 3 includes a brief review of relevant statistics that are commonly used within CPR studies, providing clinicians with a better understanding of the process used to formulate the rule.

The remaining 6 chapters include clinical prediction rules related to screening, cervicothoracic region and temporomandibular joint conditions, upper extremity conditions, lumbopelvic region conditions, lower extremity conditions, and case study summaries. The authors have divided each CPR into diagnostic, prognostic, and interventional components, if applicable. In addition, each CPR is minimally summarized by predictor variables, a clinical bottom line, and information regarding the study specifics. References related to the specific CPR are included following the overall specifics.

The case studies provide readers with examples of how CPRs may be implemented within the clinical decision-making process, and a brief discussion concerning use of this information to guide patient care is provided. In addition, the authors have used photographs to represent many of the predictor variables used within each CPR, and they included the level of evidence, quality scores, and quick summaries for the predictor variables.

This is the first reference text of its kind that successfully provides clinicians with a usable summary of various clinical prediction rules. Some of the barriers faced by clinicians include the ability to access information quickly, having the opportunity to summarize, and determining whether the information is applicable to a particular patient. This text reviews more than 50 CPRs that may be considered for clinical practice within athletic training.

Although patient populations within each CPR may differ from the physically active patients for whom athletic trainers may provide care, the information is now readily summarized for consideration within clinical practice. Clinicians should include this reference manual within their personal library and continue to examine the literature for future CPRs that may be derived, validated, or examined for effect within these and other areas.

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