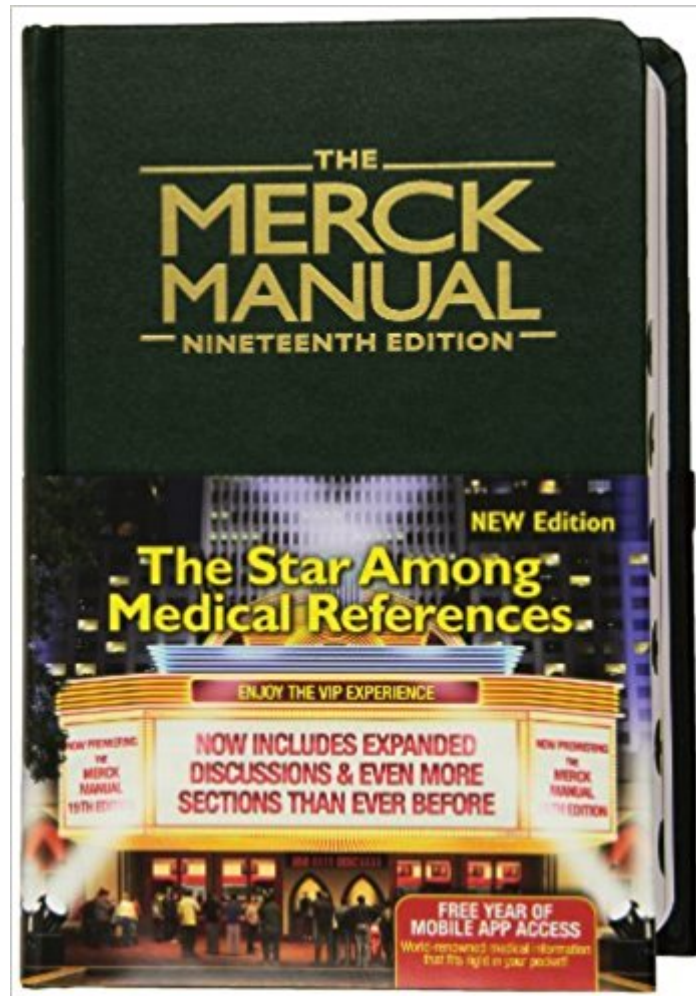




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# The Merck Manual



## Synopsis

The world's most widely used medical reference is now better than ever! For its 19th Edition, the Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy has been thoroughly updated and thoughtfully expanded, with more than 850 additional pages, 15 new chapters, over 300 new tables, and 56 new figures. Packed with essential information on diagnosing and treating medical disorders, this handy, compact guide was written by a team of clinicians for everyday use by medical professionals for delivery of the best care to their patients. Designed for maximum clinical utility, the new Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy 19th edition makes it easy to find the right information, right when it is needed. It is a must-have for medical students, residents, practicing physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals.

**Ten Interesting Facts from New Content in The Merck Manual, 19th Edition**

- Pneumonia in elderly patients may be indicated by malaise, anorexia, or confusion. On average, elderly patients have 6 diagnosable disorders, and the primary care physician is often unaware of some of them. A disorder in one organ system can weaken another system, exacerbating the deterioration of both and leading to disability, dependence, and, without intervention, death. Annually, 30 to 40% of elderly people living in the community fall; 50% of nursing home residents fall.
- The color (eg, yellow, green) and thickness of sputum do not help differentiate bacterial causes of cough from other causes. The severity of dyspnea is not always proportional to the severity of the cause (eg, pulmonary embolism in a fit, healthy person may cause only mild dyspnea).
- Although angina can be felt anywhere between the ear and the umbilicus (and often not in the chest), it is typically consistently related to physical or emotional stress, ie, patients do not experience angina from climbing one flight of stairs one day and tolerate 3 flights the next day. Palpitations are not a reliable indicator of a significant arrhythmia, but palpitations in a patient with structural heart disease or an abnormal ECG may be a sign of a serious problem and warrant investigation.
- Syncope precipitated by unpleasant physical or emotional stimuli (eg, pain, fright), occurring in the upright position and often preceded by nausea, weakness, yawning, apprehension, blurred vision, or diaphoresis suggests vasovagal syncope.
- A history of oil droplets in stool, particularly if associated with weight loss, suggests malabsorption.
- If the difference in pupil size is greater in the dark, the smaller pupil is abnormal; if the difference in pupil size is greater in light, the larger pupil is abnormal.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the very best comprehensive medical encyclopedia one can have in the home. Although compiled and written for physicians and registered nurses, and many terms probably will be unknown to the layman, there is an intricately detailed index and innumerable crossreferences. Furthermore, the Table of Contents shows that the 3,475 page reference book is well organized into Chapters dealing with each of the major systems of the human body, so that one can read large sections of a Chapter and learn more about the affected system, and thereby familiarize oneself with many of the initially unknown medical terms. Thus, the more one uses it, the more understandable and useful it becomes.

This version of Merck is so much better than the 2000 version, I had to get it! Much more information that is easier to find, understand, and apply to our lives. It helps us understand some of the changes we are going through, and provides advice, exercises, and pictures. Not as technical as past versions, so those of us without a medical background can understand and assist in correcting our medical condition. When ordinary people take an interest in their own health, they can talk with their doctors about their condition and options available. Although the Merck Manual cannot be as current in every area as the research is, it is a good starting point in understanding medical conditions and the options for treating them.

Last Merck Manual I owned was from 1987. The above manual is the last in physical printing you will be able to purchase. As a Podiatrist who has the EXACT SAME CURRICULUM as Med. Schools, the information contained within these pages is nearly doubled the '87 edition with

additions such as colored pictorial drawings of different systems. I like to keep as up to date in other specialties as well as sub-specialties as they all may come into play in my profession. A great deal of information "at your finger tips." No logging onto a computer although Merck is now online.

Wow. I had no idea there was such a tremendous resource available on health problems and treatments. The manual is pricey, but easily worth it, since it provides exhaustive but easily readable coverage of any health topic you might imagine. When I happened to mention how wonderful I thought this book was, and what a terrific discovery it was, to a nurse friend, she said, "duh", "we have copies all over the hospital, and use them all the time. It is the 'go-to' reference for doctors and nurses". I wish I knew about this book years and years ago. Now, you do. Go buy it.

This is a great book for anybody who wants to know about common diseases. From lay people to MD's, this book has something for everything. A bit expensive, but a MUST HAVE for any home medical library. I love this book

The definitive guide to medicine for health professionals I'm told, but also a treasure for those who have a basic knowledge of medical topics. Grab the final print version before it goes to e-format only.

My oldest granddaughter recently graduated from nursing school, which seems to run in my family. My mother was an RN and even though I wasn't able to live my dream, of being a Thoracic Surgeon, I finally went to nursing school, in my late 30's and early 40's. I'm in my 70's now but when girls of my generation were reading Nancy Drew, I devoured the Merck Manual and Grey's Anatomy. My granddaughter also wants to be a surgeon and with any luck, she will live out my dream, while filling her own hopes and dreams.

I had an older addition that I just loved using. Unfortunately I loaned it to someone and never got it back. This book is great, but is more generalized in information. Example: Specific urinary track infections are generalized and this was not the case with the other book. Still a very viable resource and tool, just not as specific as I would have liked.

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