

Stockley's drug interactions. 8th edition; Stockley's drug interactions 2008 pocket companion

EDITOR Karen Baxter

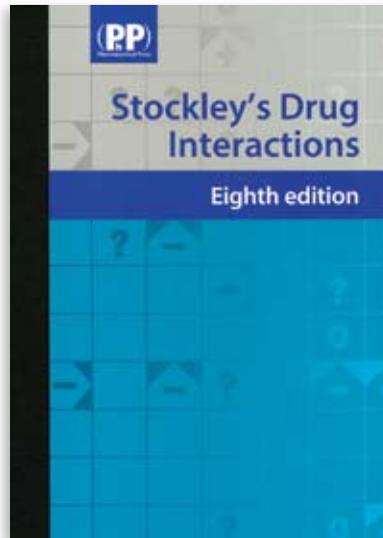
PUBLISHER Pharmaceutical Press,
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WEBSITE www.pharmpress.com

PUBLISHED 2007/1472 pp/\$257.50;
2007/576 pp/\$46.50



An interactive CD-ROM of this eighth edition and a personal digital assistant version of the pocket companion are available. MedicinesComplete provides on-line access to *Stockley's Drug Interactions* and *Stockley's Interaction Alerts* (<http://medicinescomplete.com/mc>). Lexi-Comp provides a Canadianized alternative to Stockley's on-line resources. It analyzes potential interactions among a patient's list of drugs (regardless of mixing trade names with generic names) to generate similar information about the mechanism, nature and frequency, and seriousness

of the drug interaction, and includes suggestions for how to accommodate those interactions using alternative, safer drug choices.

—Dale W. Quest PhD

Dr Quest is a pharmacologist and Associate Professor at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon.

OVERALL RATING Good

STRENGTHS Thoroughly researched, evidence-based, and fully referenced; rationally organized, well-established products

WEAKNESSES Not Canadianized; the utility and shelf-life of hard-copy drug interaction references quickly lose their value in the face of constantly updated electronic resources

AUDIENCE Health professionals who prescribe and evaluate pharmacotherapy

The goal of these reference books is to provide practitioners with ready access to clinically relevant, evidence-based information on proprietary drug interactions, as well as interactions between drugs and herbal products, dietary constituents, or environmental agents. The full-text eighth edition provides more than 3100 detailed, evidence-based, and clinically relevant monographs about drug interactions. The pocket companion is a conveniently sized quick reference, pared down to about 1500 monographs by omitting interactions involving anesthetics, specialist use of multidrug antivirals, and antineoplastic regimens. Chapter 1 of the full-text version provides a very good introductory review on the general topic of drug interactions. Eight editions have been printed since the book was first published in 1981; these print resources clearly have a limited shelf-life, likely due to competitively priced subscriptions to more integrated and regularly updated reference materials and other electronic pocket devices.

The active female. Health issues throughout the lifespan

EDITORS Jacalyn J. Robert-McComb,
Reid Norman, Mimi Zumwalt

PUBLISHER Humana Press, 999 Riverview Drive,
Suite 208, Totowa, NJ 07512 USA

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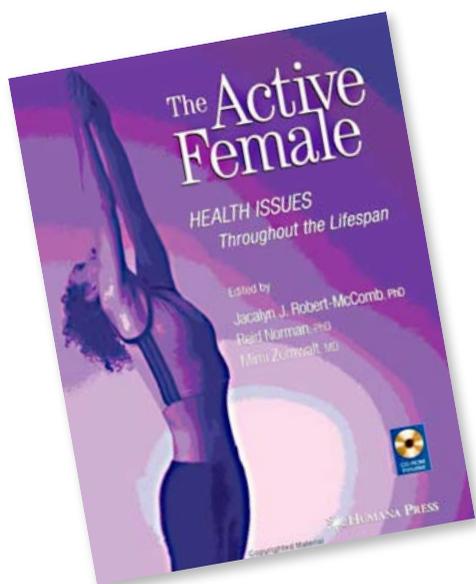
PUBLISHED 2007/462 pp/\$105.95

OVERALL RATING Poor

STRENGTHS Several teaching aids are included

WEAKNESSES Serious flaws in content and style; too simple for a physician audience

AUDIENCE Ranges from undergraduate university students to sports or medical professionals



Canada's baby care book. A complete guide from birth to 12 months old

AUTHORS Jeremy Friedman, Norman Saunders
PUBLISHER Robert Rose Inc, 66 Leek Cres, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1H1
TELEPHONE 800 387-6192
FAX 800 450-0391
WEBSITE www.fireflybooks.com
PUBLISHED 2007/448 pp/\$34.95

OVERALL RATING Very good
STRENGTHS Clearly written; thorough; easy to navigate
WEAKNESSES Despite *Canada* being in the title, the book always lists the American information first (the US food guide, nonmetric units of measure, etc)
AUDIENCE New or expecting parents and caregivers

This book consists of 29 chapters, which are divided into 6 parts. The first editor, Robert-McComb, wrote 14 of these chapters. Each chapter starts with a set of learning objectives and finishes with questions and answers. The book includes a CD-ROM with a PowerPoint presentation for each chapter.

Unfortunately, this book has serious substantive flaws. Despite its title, it is really about female pathology through the lifespan. For example, the concept of "body image" is defined solely in terms of "disturbance" and "distortions." Most of the 17 chapters have terms such as *dysfunction* or *abnormal* in their titles. The last 12 chapters do, however, discuss the active female more positively and focus on recommendations and guidelines for nutrition and exercise.

Another major problem, particularly for a professional audience, is that the book is too elementary. Perhaps some physicians will gain new wisdom but most won't.

Stylistic problems abound. The book reads like a compendium, as if the authors started with the PowerPoint presentations and converted them into a book instead of vice versa. The chapters are divided and subdivided into multiple levels, resulting in awkwardly numbered sections, some of which are very short. Moreover, the items in the lists begin with numbers in brackets while italicized numbers in brackets indicate the references, all in the same font; this is confusing at best.

Unfortunately, I am unable to recommend *The Active Female* to *Canadian Family Physician* readers as a useful tool for enhancing knowledge or practice.

—Baukje (Bo) Miedema RN MA PhD

Dr Miedema is Director of Research at the Dalhousie University Family Medicine Teaching Unit in Fredericton, NB.

There are many guidebooks geared toward a baby's first year. This book stands out in large part because of the lovely photographs, many of which are of the contributing authors' children and patients. The pictures add enormously to the information. The authors are pediatricians at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ont. Many of the contributing authors are young mothers.

The book has chapters on child development, feeding, sleeping, child safety, and illness. There is a Frequently Asked Questions section at the end of each chapter, which provides unbiased information about things not covered in the body of the text. This section is informative and offers a fair perspective on issues that are sometimes contentious for parents, such as circumcision, adoption, and breast versus bottle feeding.

The book lists good references and helpful websites (eg, the Motherisk site at www.motherisk.org). A table of contents at the beginning of each chapter and an excellent index at the back make finding information especially easy. The book also includes an author's diary entries, which I do not think add to the book.

The chapter "Caring for Your Sick Baby" is excellent. It has an

