Everyday OCT: A Handbook for Clinicians and Technicians

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Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) is a powerful tool for the assessment of ocular diseases. The ability to visualize cross sectional image, akin to an optical biopsy of ocular tissues, both quantitatively and qualitatively, helps in easy discrimination of health and disease as well as in assessment of changes during the course of the disease.

Being a noninvasive investigational modality OCT has gained acceptance and is now used world wide in settings ranging from, primary to quaternary care in both developed and developing countries. A handbook on OCT for clinicians and technicians has been a long felt need and this publication has helped fill up that void.

In the first chapter explicitly detailed information on how to operate OCT, tips on how to acquire images, identify problems in images and image acquisition, how to store and back up OCT data, how to retrieve patient data and how to export data and image is given. This is the most useful part of this hand book. As the language and presentation is simple and lucid, the technical aspects become easy to understand.

Charts detailing “trouble shooting” while scanning creates an awareness of the various problems that the operator faces during the procedure. Likely causes for these problem and the best solutions to circumvent the problem are detailed which are absolutely essential to all operators. These can be used as a ready reckoner by the technician and the ophthalmologist and will definitely help in acquisition of ‘perfect’ image.

The second chapter provides detailed information, beautifully depicted pictorially on how to interpret OCT images and printouts. Retinal diseases, glaucoma and neuro-ophthalmic conditions are dealt with in detail. Scan patterns and interpretation of common scans in healthy eyes provide useful information.

The last chapter on history of OCT and how OCT works is a “must-know” for all OCT users. Explanation of various commonly used OCT technologies and instrumentation to acquire retinal and anterior segment images help to simplify ‘difficult to understand’ technological aspects of this imaging technique. This chapter opens a window to where technology will take us in future.

Thus this handbook deals with all aspects of Stratus OCT and will be an useful ready reckoner to keep in your procedure room.