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Barkin R. M.: Problem-oriented pediatric diagnosis (2nd edn)

**Philadelphia, Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, 2001, XI 292 pp
with tables (ISBN 0-7817-3308-1), US\$ 39.95**

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This book contains essentially the differential diagnosis of major frequent problems in paediatrics as well as some therapeutic indications. The guidelines, for instance, on immunization are those of Northern America. Very useful are the tables on normal laboratory values as well as vital signs and growth charts. Parental instruction guides for some common problems are inserted at the end of the book.

One may regret that some functional disorders like recurrent abdominal pain are only mentioned, although

they are frequent problems. Not much emphasis is put on common developmental problems such as feeding problems in the 1st year of life and sleep disorders, for which parents usually call their doctor. There are no illustrations of examples where visual diagnosis is possible.

Altogether, the book is easy to use. Very useful is the fact that the differential diagnosis takes into account age related differences. The tables are well presented.

S.S.