

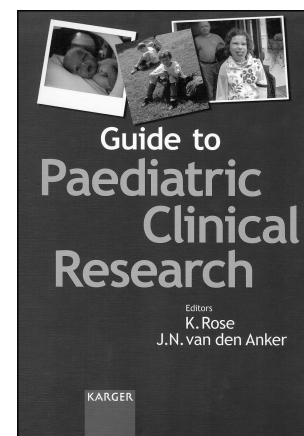
## Book review

### Guide to paediatric clinical research

Edited by Klaus Rose & John N. van den Anker.

Published by Karger, 2007, Switzerland, €65.50

(hardback), pp137. ISBN: 3-8055-8201-3



When first asked to review *Guide to Paediatric Clinical Research* I was not sure I could cope with reading a whole book about 'research' but I was pleasantly surprised. The book's intended audience is wide reaching and includes medical personnel, pharmacologists, regulatory affairs and clinical trials personnel, as well as lay persons. The 'who's who' of authors at the front of the book helps to reassure those picking it up for the first time that this is possible in such a small book. The authors range from doctors to nurses and pharmacists to those involved with specialist interest groups.

The fact that this book is presented as a series of articles makes it very reader friendly and I do believe that if there was a specific topic you wished to explore, for example the International Conference on Harmonisation, you could simply read that section and no more. There is some repetition of detail throughout the various articles but this is appropriately discussed in relation to each topic area.

It is organised in such a way that gives some historical detail of paediatric research and how it has been developed in both the United States of America and the European Union before discussing the importance of treatments for all paediatric conditions and the need for an under-

standing of the, at times, complicated issue of assent/consent in paediatric research. It then moves on to examine the current issues and methods that have been implemented in the hope of solving the paucity of clinical research previously undertaken in paediatrics. It does not shy away from the difficulties faced by those involved with paediatric research and discusses some of the problems that have been encountered but does offer suggestions as to how to overcome these in the future.

The articles do cover both European and American regulations, which to some people could become confusing but it proves interesting to learn about different regulatory bodies working within the paediatric research environment and it highlights that they're all working towards the same goals – improving research into medication for the paediatric population.

For anyone who has an interest in or is wanting to build on their current paediatric research knowledge I would recommend *Guide to Paediatric Clinical Research* as a good reference point.

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