

Marilyn Simard

Book Review #1

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Title: Educational Diagnosis and Management of Challenging Learning Situation in Medical Education

Author: Miriam Lacasse

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Pages: 116

Price: \$29.95 (<https://www.zone.coop/librairie/medecine/medecine-soins-sante/281558-educational-diagnosis-and-management-of-challenging-learning.html>)

Overall rating: Very good

Audience: Faculty and community clinical teachers

Summary: The aim of this book is to summarize the literature on challenging learners and to propose an integrated assessment of the problem and an innovative intervention model. In the first chapter, Dr. Lacasse summarizes the signs and symptoms that identify a potential problem. Then, in the second chapter, she presents the existing models of learners' problems. These help define the problem, make an educational diagnosis and identify the risk factors of learners. Chapter three summarizes the literature on the management of challenging learning situations. Finally, chapter 4 offers original tools developed by Dr. Lacasse for the diagnosis and management of challenging learning situations.

Strengths: The author presents an excellent literature review, which offers several resources on the topic. This work was done with experience librarians to help in finding relevant articles. Also, the structure of this book makes sense, which makes it very enjoyable to read. It's easy for the reader to follow the author's ideas. Also she avoids giving unnecessary details. In addition, Dr. Lacasse offers three tools and use the analogy of a medical history and physical examination to structure the assessment of a challenging learner. It's a great approach that certainly facilitates the understanding of the audience.

Weaknesses: The tools in chapter 4 are interesting but I wonder if it's realistic to think that the clinicians will use them on a daily basis. For example, the *Educational Assessment Form* is well structured but can take a long time to complete. It would have been interesting to have the opinion of clinicians, who have already used them. Moreover, it would have been interesting to present an example of a challenging learning situation in order to see in a concrete way how to use the tools.

Recommendation: I would highly recommend this book for anyone interested in learning about diagnosis and management of challenging learning situation.