

# **AN INTERACTIVE CD-ROM FOR TEACHING MEDICAL STUDENTS CHEST RADIOGRAPH INTERPRETATION**

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## **Summary**

This CD-ROM is an interactive tutorial that serves as an introduction to chest x-ray interpretation for medical students. Interactive features are used to supplement text and teach the student to recognize the normal and abnormal chest radiograph.

## **Abstract**

The chest radiograph is the most commonly ordered radiographic test, yet many medical students have little chest radiograph interpretation teaching during medical school. For most medical students, chest radiograph interpretation teaching tends to be haphazard, unstructured, and often consists of passive observation. One of the most effective ways of learning chest radiograph interpretation is through a supervised interpretation of chest films. In this method, the student discusses the chest radiograph with the teacher, and through careful questioning by the teacher the salient features of the case are brought out. Unfortunately, in today's crowded medical school curriculum few students receive this type of teaching. To address this problem, we designed an interactive CD-ROM based tutorial to teach the basics of chest radiograph interpretation to medical students. This computer-based tutorial requires the active participation of the student to activate visual features that supplement the text, and respond to questions, which insure that the student is moving logically through the case. The interactive aspects of the tutorial are designed to simulate the teacher-student interaction seen during a supervised chest radiograph interpretation session. This interactive tutorial provides a structured format that allows the student to learn normal chest radiograph anatomy and introduces a systematic approach for interpreting abnormal chest radiographs.