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'Trauma Case Studies for the Paramedic' Stephen J. Rahm (NREMT-P) Boerne, Texas

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BOOK REVIEW

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'Trauma Case Studies for the Paramedic'
Stephen J. Rahm (NREMT-P) Boerne, Texas.
Jones and Bartlett. 2005. 199 Pages. ISBN 0-7637-2583-8. RRP $51.15 AUD

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Trauma Case Studies for the Paramedic by Stephen J. Rahm is the first in a series of three text books containing 20 case studies representing a variety of *Trauma*; *Medical* and *Paediatric* emergencies respectively. Each case study presented follows a logical and systematic approach to patient assessment and management. Paramedic students apply knowledge from initial training to real-life scenarios as they complete each case study and answer the corresponding questions. Each case study begins with a thorough case presentation, and the initial assessment information is then presented in table form.

Fill-in-the-blank questions are interspersed through out the case study for students to answer as they read, and focussed history and physical examination information is also presented in table form. High-quality rhythm strips show the patient's cardiac rhythm, and a set of baseline vital signs, SAMPLE history and ongoing assessment information completes the synopsis. An answer and summary section follows each case study and explains the answers to each question presented, and the rationale behind management and treatment. Illustrations are used to demonstrate and reinforce key learning points.

Despite differences in medical terminology between northern and southern hemispheres, these books are very user-friendly and provide a great resource to students and educators alike. Each case study can be utilised to promote group discussion or a *problem sharing* approach, or alternatively, they can be utilised by individual students to consolidate new theoretical information in a *case-based learning* environment. The answer and summary section provides concise information on key topics that are not only relevant to primary health care professionals, but provide the basis for the majority of their emergency calls.

Whether an experienced primary health care professional looking to undertake revision or a student paramedic just starting out, these books are relevant at every level of basic and advanced life support training and should be part of every personal or university library.

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