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Book Reviews

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Book Reviews

Erratum

The citation for this review is *1 RISK 273 (1990)* in most commercial databases.

MARK A. ROTHSTEIN, MEDICAL SCREENING AND THE EMPLOYEE HEALTH COST CRISIS (BNA Books 1989). Foreword Edward L. Baker, MD, MPH. 296 pp. Notes, figures, tables, glossary of legal terms, glossary of medical and health care terms, table of cases and index. LC 89-977; ISBN 0-87179-628-7. [\$45.00, address above.]

ROBERT DECRESCE, MARK LIFSHITZ, ADRIANNE MAZURA, AND JOSEPH TILSON, DRUG TESTING IN THE WORKPLACE (ASCP Press and BNA Books 1989). Forewords by Edward Miller, JD and George Lundberg, MD. 278 pp. Notes, figures, tables, table of cases and index. LC 88-39191; ISBN 0-89189-260-5 (ASCP), 0-87179-588-4 (BNA). [\$45.00 BNA Books.]

Both of these books deal with the topic of medical screening of employees. As indicated by the titles, Rothstein's book deals with various types of screening, with a focus on health costs, while DeCresce et al. focus on one specific type of screening. Both books are very well documented and should serve as good reference sources.

Rothstein's book is a sequel to his *MEDICAL SCREENING OF WORKERS* (1984) and explores the shifting focus of workplace medical screening in recent years. He notes that medical screening efforts are more-and-more being directed at the identification of nonoccupational illnesses, in contrast to earlier screening which focused on attempting to identify those at increased risk of developing occupational illnesses or incurring occupational injuries.

After discussing the increasing importance of medical screening, Rothstein devotes separate chapters to diagnostic and predictive screening — and to specific types of testing (genetic, AIDS, and drug testing). He examines the legal implications of screening (three chapters), discusses health insurance and explores policy issues.

DRUG TESTING IN THE WORKPLACE, with its more narrow focus, provides a more detailed examination of one type of employee

screening. It includes a short, easy-to-read treatment of some of the probabilistic issues surrounding drug test accuracy which are all-too-often ignored.

Separate chapters are devoted to legal issues, testing processes, the employer's decision to test, and the concern of unions. The book also contains the National Institute on Drug Abuse guidelines, and a chapter which discusses the drugs of abuse and the benefits and limitations of drug detection methods.

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