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Book review

## Practical retinal photography and digital imaging techniques

**Marshall Tyler, Patrick Saine, Timothy Bennett. Butterworth-Heinemann: Pennsylvania, PA; 2003.210 pages\$59.95 USDISBN 0-7506-7371-0Media type: Textbook**

Alison Schmidt CRA, Reviewer<sup>a</sup>

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Available online 5 June 2004.

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**Review:** "Practical Retinal Photography and Digital Imaging Techniques" is the newest retinal photography book from Marshall Tyler, CRA, FOPS, Patrick Saine, MEd, CRA, FOPS, and Timothy Bennett, CRA, FOPS. It is the third book for Tyler and Saine ("Ophthalmic Photography: Retinal Photography, Angiography, and Electronic Imaging" editions I and II) and is the first book for Bennett. This streamlined handbook is light, portable, and easy to read, which makes it an integral addition to any clinic or ophthalmic photographer's library.

As the title suggests, the focus of this book is specifically retinal photography and digital imaging. One of the strengths of this handbook is the inclusion of various cameras and equipment into its lessons. Comparative photos and diagrams of Zeiss, Topcon, Canon, and Retcam, as well as Nidek and Kowa portables, give readers an excellent way to familiarize themselves with camera controls regardless of make and model. Three chapters of the latest digital imaging information ranging from basic (what is a tiff file?) to more advanced techniques (resampling vs. resizing) and tips for the processing and output of images. The authors also familiarize the reader with various software programs and hardware options. Another useful chapter in this book is "Ten Fundus Photography FAQ's" which includes for the reader some important questions to consider when purchasing a camera system for the office.

This book is packed with excellent color photographs that illustrate a wide variety of pathology and techniques as well as straightforward diagrams, charts, and examples of a multitude of topics. It is excellently organized, simple, and concise. While it is a must-have for veteran photographers as a reference book and teaching tool, this book is especially important for technicians and novice photographers because it includes not only all the technical information needed to perform basic retinal photography, but also many pearls of wisdom that come only from having an excellent teacher or years of clinical experience. It is this knowledge that sets the experienced, educated, and truly effective ophthalmic photographer apart from all others. This book will help impart this knowledge in those offices where the staff is left to teach themselves.

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