Interest in vitamin D has dramatically increased over the past several decades. From the beginning, vitamin D was incorrectly named a vitamin when later it was discovered to be a member of the steroid hormone family. Over time, the vitamin D receptor was discovered along its major circulating form, 25-hydroxyvitamin D, and its hormonal ligand, 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D. Classically, vitamin D was known to be important for enhancing intestinal absorption of calcium; however, interest grew in vitamin D when it was determined that vitamin D may be utilized by other tissues of the body. The role of vitamin D in cancer, cardiovascular disease, infection, and other conditions is still under investigation.

Physicians and health-care providers encounter patients with a variety of diseases that require different forms of vitamin D. There are a variety of formations of vitamin D that may have an important role in clinical practice today. The purpose of this case book is to present a practicing physician with a number of different cases commonly seen in practice that require different forms of vitamin D therapy. This book presents in a case-based format several cases ranging from simple vitamin D deficiency to patients
with genetic diseases that disrupt vitamin D metabolism. These case presentations should help the reader comprehend the importance of vitamin D in human health.

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