With important emphasis on the doctor–patient relationship and effective multidisciplinary services, this is an invaluable resource for all primary care providers, hospital doctors in training, nurses, stoma therapists, dieticians, psychologists, counselors and social workers; in fact, all health professionals involved in the care of patients with IBD, as well as patients who wish to know more about their condition.

Ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease, referred to collectively as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), are chronic debilitating disorders. IBD, particularly Crohn's disease, is increasing everywhere, most notably in the Western world where about 1 in 200 people now has the condition.

This highly readable, 'zippy' fourth edition provides succinct yet thorough information that will aid early recognition of these disorders and their complications, alongside practical holistic management advice.

So what's new in this edition?
• Increased insight into the causes of IBD
• New chapters on extraintestinal manifestations and management principles
• Key information on the limitations and side effects of traditional treatment options
• New and emerging drugs that target specific inflammatory pathways
• An overview of specific management issues in elderly patients