Essential Ophthalmoscopy was written as an electronic textbook to make use of the new tools and smart technology available for teaching direct ophthalmoscopy. Our goals with this text were to provide medical students, family medicine and primary care physicians, as well as emergency room physicians and nurses with a basic understanding of the direct ophthalmoscope, the essential knowledge and techniques needed to competently perform a basic ocular health assessment with the direct ophthalmoscope, recognize ocular disease and ocular manifestation of systemic disease commonly encountered in the clinical setting, and a concise and readily accessible resource for the clinician to reference when determining whether a patient requires immediate medical treatment by an ophthalmologist or optometrist.