

Book Reviews

Dermatology 1999;198:323–325

R.O. Potts, R.H. Guy

Mechanisms of Transdermal Drug Delivery

Drug and Pharmaceutical Science, vol. 83
Dekker, New York 1997
376 pp.; \$ 150.00
ISBN 0–8247–9863–5

This book provides an update and critical examination of biophysical techniques used in the analysis of molecular mechanisms underlying transdermal drug delivery. A book for skin pharmacologists and dermal toxicologists.

L.B. Aust

Cosmetic Claims Substantiation

Cosmetic Science and Technology Series, vol. 18
Dekker, New York 1998
288 pp.; \$ 135.00
ISBN 0–8247–9855–4

This book is presented as a useful resource to show how to validate scientifically the marketing claims of chemical products. Primarily for people in the cosmetic industry.

D.J. Gawkrödger

Dermatology, an Illustrated Textbook

Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh 1997
128 pp.; £ 19.00
ISBN 0–443–05328–6

This book is aimed at medical students but may be used by family practitioners. It is superbly illustrated with didactic schemes and good clinical pictures. The design and organization carry adequately modern concepts of our speciality. If you are a teacher, look at it; you may recommend it to your students.

M. Leibowitch, R. Staughton, S. Neill, S. Barton, R. Marwood

An Atlas of Vulval Disease: A Combined Dermatological, Gynaecological and Venereological Approach

Dunitz, London 1997
188 pp.; £ 49.95
ISBN 1–85317–431–9

Content: Anatomy of the Vulva and Classifications of Diseases – Examination of the Vulva – Commonly Observed Non-Pathological

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Lesions – Inflammatory Diseases – Ulcerating and Blistering Disorders – Pilosebaceous Inflammation – Infections and Infestations – Tumours – Intra-Epithelial Neoplasia – Malignant Disease – Pigmented Lesions – Vulval Diseases in Childhood – Psychological Aspects of Vulval Disease

This is the second edition; it appears that many modifications have been made as compared to the edition published in 1995: 60 new colour illustrations, expanded text and new sections on plastic repair of the vulva, female genital mutilation. A must only for those who do not have the first edition, which was already a very useful book.

N. Lowe, R. Marks

Retinoids: A Clinician's Guide; 2nd ed.

Dunitz, London 1998
184 pp.; £ 49.95
ISBN 1-85217-427-0

Some chapters are good (Vahlquist, Shroot), but many are superficial or promotional. Not really a guide for clinicians.

R. Rajagopalan, E.F. Sherertz, R.T. Anderson

**Care Management of Skin Diseases:
Life Quality and Economic Impact**

Dekker, New York 1998
464 pp.; \$ 150.00
ISBN 0-8247-0128-3

Content: Introduction – Counseling for Life Quality – Study on Quality of Life – Economic Impact of Diseases and Therapy – Care Management – Conclusion

This is claimed to be the first single-source volume on this subject (although some items are now available also in *Epidemiology, Causes and Prevention of Skin Diseases*, by J.J. Grobb et al., Blackwell Science, Oxford).

It appears to be a must in the library of a department of dermatology. One can find detailed reviews on the state of the art on all items related to skin diseases. Practicing dermatologists would also enjoy reading this book, which should help in coping with the sociopolitical issues related to their daily practice as well as the health insurance companies.

J.-P. Lepoittevin, D.A. Basketter, A. Goosens, A.-T. Karlberg

**Allergic Contact Dermatitis:
The Molecular Basis**

Springer, Heidelberg 1998
X + 186 pp.; DM 98.–, CHF 89.50
ISBN 3-540-61833-3

Content: Introduction – Immunological Aspects – Chemical Basis – Isolation and Identification of Contact Allergens – Skin Metabolism – Hapten-Protein Interactions – Molecular Basis for the Recognition of Haptens by T Lymphocytes – Structure-Activity Relationships for Contact Hypersensitivity – The Practical Approach

This nice book is a brainchild of the European Society of Contact Dermatitis working on the chemical basis of allergic contact dermati-

tis. It is well presented, can easily be read by a non-specialist and provides a full coverage of the topic. Should be in all patch test clinic libraries and accessible to residents in training.

B.M. Henz, T. Zuberbier, J. Grabbe, E. Monroe

**Urticaria: Clinical, Diagnostic and
Therapeutic Aspects**

Springer, Heidelberg 1997
XIV + 210 pp.; DM 98.–, CHF 89.50
ISBN 3-540-62973-4

This is the English translation of the second German edition of a monography based on the one written by the first author (B. Czarnecki, now B. Henz). Most of the classical issues are well covered, but only minor updates on current issues such as the *Helicobacter* story and the autoantibodies against IgE receptors are provided.

D.H. Johnson

Hair and Hair Care

Cosmetic Science and Technology Series, vol. 17
Dekker, New York 1997
376 pp.; \$ 150.00
ISBN 0-8247-9365-X

An authoritative source of information aimed at cosmetic chemists. Dermatologists in academia may find useful information on the pragmatic approach to the world of hair care.

M. Harahap

Diagnosis and Treatment of Skin Infections

Blackwell Science, Oxford 1997
463 pp.; £ 89.50
ISBN 0-632-04757-7

This multiauthored book covers all types of infectious skin diseases. It does not provide more than what can be found in the related chapters of classical textbooks of dermatology.

J. M. Krikwood

**Molecular Diagnosis and Treatment of
Melanoma**

Dekker, New York 1998
380 pp.; \$ 150.00
ISBN 0-8247-0102-X

A monograph dealing with basic and clinical investigations with a therapeutic perspective. Some information is already outdated, due to the rapid evolution in this field.

A.W. Klein

Tissue Augmentation in Clinical Practice: Procedures and Techniques

Basic and Clinical Dermatology, vol. 15
Dekker, New York 1998
408 pp.; \$ 150.00
ISBN 0-8247-0124-0

An encyclopedia of available substances for soft-tissue augmentation, their properties and proper application. A well designed and edited book.

P. Elsner, A.O. Barel, E. Berardesca, B. Gabard, J. Serup

Skin Bioengineering: Techniques and Applications in Dermatology and Cosmetology

Current Problems in Dermatology, vol. 26
Karger, Basel 1998
X + 250 pp.; CHF 249.-
ISBN 3-8055-6519-4

A good overview of the topic under the editorship of experts.

N. H. Cox, F.M. Lawrence

Diagnostic Problems in Dermatology

Mosby, London 1998
186 pp.; £ 26.95
ISBN 0-7234-2790-9

This book is a kind of 'tour de force'; it is designed to help non-dermatologists (presumably in the UK where dermatologists are few) to reach a differential diagnosis between disorders which are frequently confused with each other. The book is organized into body sites. The illustrations are very good and the design is quite practical, each problem/clinical situation (usually well chosen) being shown on opposite pages. The evidence-based medicine addicts would argue that a demonstration that any GP would do better with the book is lacking. I would also recommend it to trainees before an examination as a quiz provider and to fully trained dermatologists to maintain their clinical skills. Really a good book.

J.J. Nordlund, R.E. Boissy, V.J. Hearing, R.A. King, J.-P. Ortonne

The Pigmentary System: Physiology and Pathophysiology

Oxford University Press, New York 1998
1025 pp.
ISBN 0-19-509861-7

There was no comprehensive reference available which compiled both old and new data into a single source. Now there is one! It is a superb textbook, it is encyclopedic and can be used by both the biologist and the clinician, either novice or sophisticated expert. A must in your library.

I.M. Braverman

Skin Signs of Systemic Disease; 3rd ed.

Saunders Co., Philadelphia 1998
684 pp.
ISBN 0-7216-3745-0

The third edition of a classic. About 75% have been revised or rewritten. The personal, single-author approach of such a broad pathology remains an amazing task, and a very interesting text to read. Congratulations, Dr. Braverman!

D.J. Leffell, M.D Brown

Manual of Skin Surgery: A Practical Guide to Dermatologic Procedures

Wiley-Liss, New York 1998
250 pp.; £ 39.95
ISBN 0-471-13411-2

Content: Introduction – Diagnosis – Practical Anatomy – Wound Healing – Skin Biopsy – Local Anesthesia – Surgical Instruments – Wound Closure Material – Patient Preparation – Basic Excisional Surgery – Surgical Complications – Special Topics in Dermatologic Surgery – Risk Management – Action Guides – Vendors for Dermatologic Surgery

There are many books on skin surgery; this one is very good and practical for starting. It contains all the necessary information for simple excisional skin surgery. The authors wanted to produce a 'how to' manual; it is!

R. Dawber

Diseases of the Hair and Scalp

Blackwell Science, Oxford 1997
616 pp.; £ 125.00
ISBN 0-86542-866-2

This is the third edition of a classical textbook. It remains a pragmatic guide for practising dermatologists, but also a reference to hair scientists. The distribution of the chapters may seem difficult to understand for those used to other classifications, but the British view is perhaps the right one.

S.J. Miller, M.E. Maloney

Cutaneous Oncology: Pathology, Diagnosis and Management

Blackwell Science, Oxford 1998
992 pp.; £ 220.00
ISBN 0-86542-517-5

Content: Cutaneous Carcinogenesis – Melanoma – Squamous Cell Carcinoma – Basal Cell Carcinoma – Other Cutaneous Tumours

This is the comprehensive book on oncology in dermatology. It features biological, clinical and therapeutic aspects of all skin cancers. It is both exhaustive and easy to read. This is the first edition of a book that will likely become a classic.