

BOOK REVIEWS

Leprosy, Hastings RC : Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, 1985; pp 331, Price, not quoted.

The tremendous pace of research in the field of leprosy, during the last few decades has led to accumulation of a large body of information and this has obviously necessitated compilation of this knowledge. This book on *Leprosy* edited by Robert C Hastings is an excellent piece of work in this direction. There are in all 14 chapters dealing with various aspects of leprosy and these include, the history of leprosy, epidemiology, microbiology, immunology, classification, pathology, clinical features, differential diagnosis, treatment, eye complications, ENT involvement, control programmes, experimental leprosy and rehabilitation. Each of these chapters has been written by the world authorities in the respective fields. There is a comprehensive blend

of the traditional knowledge, with the newer information, making this book an authoritative textbook on leprosy. Each chapter is followed by the references from which the information has been drawn. This book is thus useful both to the research workers in leprosy for whom it will serve as a reference book, and to the clinical leprosy workers who need to update their information about the diagnosis and management of the disease and to keep themselves abreast of the basic information about the pathogenetic mechanisms leading to this important disease.

It is hoped that this effort of the international community will ultimately help to eradicate leprosy from the world.

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