

BOOK REVIEW

Colour Atlas of Dermatology. By L. K. BHUTANI (1982) : Interprint Price Rs. 135-00.

The author has intended this book primarily for senior medical students, general practitioners and residents in dermatology. It will serve this purpose excellently well.

The 185 paged volume is divided into 19 sections. The contents cover a wide range of dermatological conditions and is well proportioned in the presentation of the common, not-so-common and rare dermatosis seen in India as well as common sexually transmitted diseases.

There are 363 colour clinical photographs of different disease entities. There is almost a professional perfection in the quality of the photographs. This makes the book admirably suited for the students of dermatology and internal medicine. In a few instances, the intended normal colour of the skin has given place to some abnormal hues.

Some of the clinical conditions are presented with photomicrographs of which there are about 50. These have been probably introduced for the benefit of residents of dermatology. Details are lacking in few of these shown under low magnification as for example in the photomicrograph of Porokeratosis of Mibelli, erythroplasia of Queyrat and borderline leprosy. Under the high magnification photomicrographs are clear and good.

Brief notes on the clinical features of each of the condition represented in the photograph is another feature of this book. The author has to be congratulated for presenting these notes concisely and with precision.

A mistake has crept in, in the identifying squares of leiomyoma, lipoma and dermatitis papulosa nigra.

A short glossary of clinical and histological terms are given on the last page. These will be useful particularly to the undergraduate and post-graduate students.

The book is eminently suited for any medical library and would be an invaluable asset to all dermatological libraries. The relative low cost makes the book within reach of even the very junior medicoes.