

BOOK REVIEWS

Pediatric Dermatology, Schachner LA and Hansen RC : Churchill Livingstone, New York, 1988; pp 1641, Price £ 225.00.

This book is a monumental treatise compiled by 52 internationally recognised authorities in their respective fields. It has been printed in 2 volumes which contain seven sections, printed on 1641 pages. A total of 32 chapters cover the following topics : *Section I, Basic sciences and principles of diagnosis and treatment*, (1) Basic science, (2) Immunology, (3) Psychosocial development in children with cutaneous disease, (4) Principles of diagnosis, (5) Principles of treatment, (6) Surgical techniques. *Section II, Neonatal and inherited disorders*, (7) Neonatal skin and skin disorders, (8) Genodermatoses, (9) Ichthyosis and disorders of cornification. *Section III, Diseases of mucous membranes and appendageal structures*, (10) Mucous membrane disorders, (11) Pigmentary abnormalities, (12) Hair disorders, (13) Nail and appendageal abnormalities, (14) Acne. *Section IV, Reaction patterns*, (15) Eczematous dermatitis, (16) Papular squamous disease, (17) Vesicular, bullous and pustular disorders, (18) Diseases of the dermis and subcutaneous tissues, (19) Sclerosing and atrophying conditions, (20) Vascular reactions. *Section V, Neoplasms and systemic diseases*, (21) Vascular malformations, (22) Benign neoplasms, premalignant conditions, and malignancy, (23) Cutaneous manifestations of endocrine, metabolic, and nutritional disorders, (24) Collagen vascular and connective tissue disease, (25) Selected systemic diseases

with skin manifestations : Kawasaki disease and inflammatory bowel disease. *Section VI, Infections and infestations*, (26) Bacterial infections, (27) Viral infections, (28) Fungal, protozoa, and helminth infections, (29) Infestations, (30) Sexually transmitted diseases, syphilis, and the nonvenereal treponematoses. *Section VII, Injuries*, (31) Venomous animal injuries, and (32) Physical injury.

The text is supported with numerous black and white and colour plates, which are of high quality. The language throughout is very clear and simple. Fortunately, the too-technical, high sounding, modern language phraseology has been avoided.

The clinical features of the diseases, their diagnosis, therapeutic measures and other related aspects are described briefly but adequately. The descriptions are complete with references. Some of the chapters have been given in great detail.

Although the title of the book is Pediatric Dermatology, most diseases which are prevalent during adulthood, but also occur in children, are also included. This book thus is a complete treatise in Dermatology and a very useful reference book. It should be possessed by all libraries and also by dermatologists who can afford it.

J S Pasricha
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