

BOOK REVIEW

Recent Advances in Dermatopharmacology. Frost P, Gomez EC, Zaias N, eds. New York, Spectrum Publications Inc. pp258. Price Rs. 180 (approx.)

The preface by Eugene Van Scott emphasizes that topically administered drugs have to move in a direction opposite to that of physiological materials, a challenge that has to be overcome. The book deals with advances in systemic and topical dermatopharmacology with glimpses into the future.

Limitations to micronization of drug crystals, and the importance of dispersion of ultrafine particles in solid polyethylene glycol matrix to enhance absorption are well discussed in the two chapters on griseofulvin. The effects of silver sulfadiazine and the zinc congener on DNA and RNA systems of bacteria point to newer methods of bacterial control, without allowing fungal colonization. The chapters on Transfer Factors show the efficacy in candidiasis, and point out how bias influences judgement when warts are treated thus. The effect of thalidomide on afferent and efferent limbs of immunologic responses is discussed with P. L. E. like lesions and E. N. L. as points of reference. The use of gels instead of ointments as bases, modulation of keratinization with a-hydroxy acids and management of hyperkeratosis constitute works of art with scientific accuracy.

This compilation of the writings of several authors of galactic eminence is recommended to all dermatologists, research workers and postgraduate students.

V. R. Mehta,
Bombay

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Madam,

Re : International Decade for Women

Call it a gesture, achivalry, a change or duty, but it well be quite in tune with the International decade for women declared by UNO if we elect rather select our next-President to be one of our lady members, especially when women are so much in news in our country. It is high time, we practise what we profess, and thus steal a march over and set an example to other associations.

Of course the would-be incumbent should meet all requirements and qualities for Presidency enunciated in my guest editorial published about two years ago in our journal.

T. K. Mehta

25th September 1980
King'sway Clinic,
Opp. King's Circle Gardens,
Matunga, Bombay 400019