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BOOK REVIEW

Krieg T, Bickers DR, Miyachi Y, editors

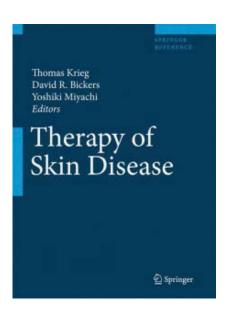
Therapy of Skin Diseases: A Worldwide Perspective on Therapeutic Approaches and Their Molecular Basis

First edition. Berlin, Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag 2010. Pages 766, parts twelve, hard cover, one volume. ISBN 978-3-540-78813-3

Treatment of skin diseases has changed remarkably during the last decade as the result of better understanding of the molecular and cellular basis of many skin diseases. Many new drugs and therapeutic modalities have been developed. Simultaneously with the development of novel therapeutics, there has been a major evolution in clinical practice of dermatology with variations in different areas of the world.

In their Foreword, the book editors state they had two goals in mind when preparing the book: first, to summarize novel therapeutic procedures that are based on the understanding of the pathophysiology of skin diseases; and second, to bring in one place the variability of treatment modalities used in dermatology practice in different parts of the world. Indeed, these two goals have been achieved in this book. All chapters indicate global variations in the occurrence of skin diseases and their treatment. The editors gathered an impressive group of 105 authors, experts in particular fields of dermatology.

All chapters are written in a concise manner, free from wordiness. The chapters begin with key features and end with take home messages summarizing the chapter core in several headwords. Part one of the book deals with skin biology, immune mechanisms, general pharmacology, immunomodulation in dermatology, basic principles of genetics and gene therapy, percutaneous absorption and principles of corneotherapy/skin care, principles of



systemic therapy, retinoid pharmacology, ultraviolet A and B phototherapy, laser therapy, photodynamic therapy, dermatologic surgery, and neurophysiology of itch. Parts two and three describe therapy of infectious and papulosquamous skin diseases. For each disease, the review of therapeutic options is preceded by brief descriptions of the disease etiology and pathogenesis, clinical features and diagnosis. In therapy section, general therapeutic outlines, current established therapies, experimental approaches as well as complications to avoid are presented. Part nine of the book is dedicated to cosmetic dermatology, while part ten contains basic clinical data and therapeutic approach to hereditary diseases. All chapters are accompanied by an enviable number of references. The last part. part twelve of this valuable book deals with miscellaneous disorders. Disorders associated with pregnancy, children's skin diseases, skin diseases associated with advanced age, and occupational dermatoses are described.

We are very happy indeed that this highly useful book appeared at the beginning of 2010. It will certainly be of great help not only to dermatologists but also to all physicians encountering skin disorders in their routine. This book provides the reader with up-to-date knowledge of therapy for skin disease and with support in understanding the mode of action of particular therapies for skin diseases.

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