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Book review

Immunology: A Short Text Book

Fourth Edition, September-2008

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This is virtually a text book, in short, on Immunology, published in Bangladesh, firstly in May, 1998.

The book contains almost all areas of Immunology including the chapter titles of History and introduction to Immunology, Innate Immunity, Overview of Acquired Immunity, Cells and organs of Immune system, Antigen, Immunogen and Superantigen, Antibody and immunoglobulin, T-cell maturation, activation, differentiation and memory response, B-cell maturation, activation, differentiation and memory response, Humoral Immunity, Cell mediated Immunity, Cytokines, Mechanisms of immune response, Complement, MHC/ HLA, Hypersensitivity, Antigen antibody reaction and their applications, Tolerance and autoimmunity, Immunodeficiency, Tumour Immunology, Immunoprophylaxis and immunotherapy. The current edition, in addition, included Multiple choice questions, and short answer questions especially adapted for new curriculum of the undergraduate students.

As the book starts with the History and Introduction of Immunology, it carries many important, less attended areas. The authors rightly listed the applications and branches of Immunology. It is assumed as a very good start of each chapter with a lesson plan that can guide the reader of its contents. Illustrations are supposed to be very helpful for the beginners. Most of the topics have been elaborated with information nicely to make the book useful for advance readers as well.

Now the book got a nice gathering of information on immunology collected from the internet as well. Salient features of the book, as mentioned on back cover, materially include a curriculum-based text duly updated from the internet, clear illustrations, and all possible short questions and MCQs to make useful for the undergraduate students.

A few among the weaknesses identified includes lack of integrity in composition of some information, many illustrations added from internet simply by 'copy and paste' without appropriate acknowledgements ignoring the publication ethics.

In conclusion, the book appears covering very significant role in the gap in the immunological aspect in Bangladesh and hope further edition more attractive in terms of knowledge and publication ethics.

