

BOOK REVIEW

HANDBOOK OF LEPROSY

This small volume of 139 pages on leprosy written by a well-known authority on the subject gives a concise and up-to-date account of a disease which can be read with interest and benefit by all who practice medicine in areas where leprosy is endemic. This second edition is timely because there have been much advance in the understanding and treatment of the disease in recent years. The book provides clear advice on diagnosis, classification and treatment of leprosy. The text is well illustrated with line drawings, charts, black and white photographs and also some coloured plates. The section on classification of leprosy will help readers who are bewildered by the spectrum of the disease. A new chapter gives the current

immunological concepts of leprosy together with evidence supporting these concepts. The immunological mechanisms in the pathogenesis of leprosy have been correlated with the clinical classification. A good description of the immunological basis of leprosy reactions is also given.

In the section on treatment, mention is made of the problem of drug resistance and the current use of combined chemotherapy for the prevention of drug resistance. Throughout the book, readers will find many practical points useful in the management of leprosy.

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