

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Side Effects in Dermatology. A Guide to Drug Eruptions, 7th edn.* by W. Bruinsma. Softcover. 132 pages. ISBN 90-5884-001-8. Price EURO 55.00. Intermed Medical Publishers, Amsterdam, 2000

This booklet is an updated version of previous editions. The format is the same as before and it is still possible to carry it in one's pocket although it may protrude a little. This is a neat way in which to have access to information (albeit in a very condensed form) about drug eruptions in clinical settings. Especially valuable when confronting patients with a suspected adverse reaction is the section on specific dermatological conditions that could be related to the use of certain drugs. As with previous editions the information is based on adverse effects reported in the literature combined with spontaneous reports sent in by doctors and the author's own clinical experience. This should be kept in mind when evaluating the estimates of occurrence. Recent references have replaced older ones. Doubtful adverse reactions based on a single observation >20 years ago have been eliminated.

This book can be recommended for both trainees in dermatology and for specialists as a quick guide to drug eruptions in clinical practice.

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*Handbook of Pediatric Dermatology*, by Julian Verbov. Hardcover. 224 pages. ISBN 1-85317-888-8. Price £39.95, \$69.95. Martin Dunitz Publ, 2000.

This practical handbook, written by one of the leading experts in pediatric dermatology, is a welcome addition to the literature. It includes over 400 colour photographs forming a comprehensive review of the wide range of dermatological conditions seen in children and the newborn. It is essentially an atlas based on figure legends and only little formal text. The pictures are generally of good quality and the text is adapted for practical use rather than an in-depth description of the diseases and their etiologies. The book is divided into an introductory chapter on skin disorders in the newborn and 10 additional chapters on more specific dermatological diseases. As pointed out in the preface, this structure has some drawbacks; for example it is a little confusing when a 2-year-old child is illustrated in the chapter about newborns and when some types of genodermatoses are described both under "newborns" and as a separate chapter. The book is of a medium size format and rather thin (200 pages) making it easy to carry in your pocket when visiting pediatric departments. It is highly recommended for anyone seeing children with dermatologic problems.

*Anders Vahlquist  
Editor-in-Chief*