

found on further examination. A diagnosis of Becker melanosis was made and the benign nature of the condition explained to the family.

Becker melanosis is typically characterized by unilateral circumscribed hyperpigmentation that usually begins at puberty and displays features of androgen sensitivity like hypertrichosis, and acneiform eruptions. Several skeletal or soft tissue anomalies can be associated with Becker melanosis (Becker nevus syndrome). The common mimickers of the condition are melanocytic nevus (usually congenital, lacks acneiform

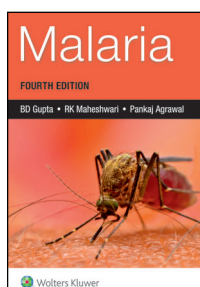
eruption), café au lait macules (present since birth, no hypertrichosis), and plexiform neurofibroma ('bag of worms' sign, presence of other features of neurofibromatosis). Topical flutamide or Q-switched ruby or Er: YAG laser can be used to treat the cosmetic concerns regarding the condition.

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BOOK REVIEWS



Malaria: Fourth Edition

BD GUPTA AND RK MAHESHWARI

Wolters Kluwer (India) Pvt. Ltd.

Pages: 374; Price: Not mentioned.

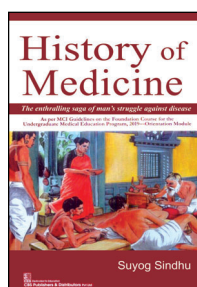
This concise book is a good ready reckoner for medical personnel dealing with malaria. Most of the recent advancements in the preventive and therapeutic strategies to control malaria have been incorporated into the book. The clinical features highlighted through case scenarios is a welcome addition, assisting easy grasp of the subject.

There are certain points that need to be taken care of in the next edition *e.g.*, the dated information on geographical distribution of malaria incidence in India, lack of alignment between tables on modes of administration of anti-malarials and on chemotherapy. There is a need to expand the section on chemoprophylaxis to include more drugs like chloroquine, proguanil and atovaquone, and provide information on the total duration of treatment.

On the whole, this book is a valuable addition to the armamentarium of the treating physician.

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History of Medicine

DR SUYOG SINDHU

*CBS Publishers & Distributors
Pvt Ltd.*

Pages: 86; Price: 175/-

Since the adoption of foundation course for MBBS curriculum last year, there has been a wild search for resource materials for various new topics introduced, including History of Medicine. This compact and informative book comes as a ready reckoner – composite and interesting information on history of medicine delineated on four time lines- Prehistory, Middle ages, Period of renaissance and Modern medicine. The multitude of authentic photographs is surely the icing on the cake and along with the two-color printing makes the material visually appealing. The book is written in an easy narrative style that facilitates understanding. There is a chapter dedicated to famous Indian doctors (chapter 8) that should serve as an inspiration to our students, although the selection is not exhaustive and a bit idiosyncratic. Definitely recommended!

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