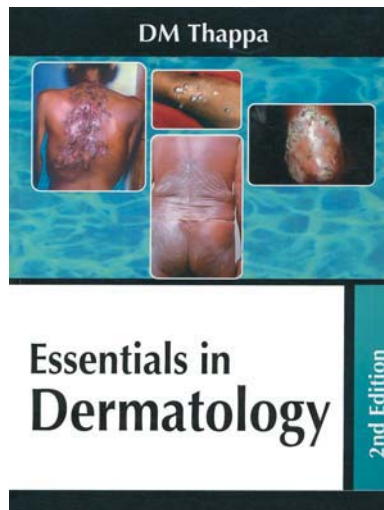


Book Review



Essentials in Dermatology

2nd Edition 2009

Author: Dr. Devinder M Thappa

Published by Jaypee

Prices Rs.720/- Ic 450/-

Essentials in Dermatology by Dr Devinder M Thappa is an apt book for undergraduates interested in dermatology. The second edition is an improvement over the previous edition. It has 3 sections covering dermatology, sexually transmitted infections and leprosy. Each section has multiple chapters covering major diseases in detail. The adage “a picture is worth a thousand words” is especially true in dermatology. Illustrations are very useful in studying dermatology, in recalling important features of the disease. Dr Thappa’s book is well illustrated with dermatological conditions affecting the Asian skin. Most dermatological atlases show skin diseases affecting the white Caucasian skin and there can be some differences when such diseases affect the brown or dark colour of Asians. The book describes succinctly the important features of the disease

such as pathogenesis, clinical features, differential diagnosis and treatment. The important points are highlighted in bold letters and described in bullet points or enumerated. This makes it easier for the students to memorize and recall the salient features of the disease. The MCQs at the end of the book is a boon to the reader as it helps in the study of the subject and highlight areas where one needs to concentrate. Post graduate students can be benefited by going through the book repeatedly. It is useful for the dermatologists as well. For the next edition I would like to make some suggestions. Some references at the end of each chapter would help those interested in further studies and research of the topic. A hard cover book would last longer as it has to be thumbed frequently.

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