

Book Review

Textbook of Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Diseases

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The first edition of the book was published in 2001 and second edition in the year 2009 and both the editions were acclaimed not only in India but also in South-East Asia. The last decade has witnessed phenomenal changes in our understanding of tuberculosis (TB) and major advances in nontuberculous mycobacterial diseases have occurred. Tuberculosis is an ancient disease and still constitutes a social, economic and political threat to the entire population. The revised edition of the book covers all aspects of the very basics of TB from epidemiology to bacteriology, from genetics to immunology and from diagnosis to treatment. The present addition of the book includes recent classification of drugs and drug combinations used to treat M/XDR-TB. The book also includes chapter that examine the delicate interface between public services and the private and non-state sector for the fundamental infection control measures, often neglected in many countries. This edition includes a description of WHO's new global strategy—the End TB Strategy 2016-2035—. Chapter 1 gives a brief history of this ancient disease, how it was managed in ancient times and how present TB control programmes and methods to diagnose and treatment in the changing global scenario. Chapters on “Ethical and Legal Issues in TB Control” by John

Porter; “Airborne TB Transmission and Infection Control Strategies”; “Standards of TB Care in India” on the basis of WHO guidelines; “International Standards of TB Care” and “Index TB Guidelines” are welcome addition to this edition.

The book of this magnitude should have included a chapter on “National Tobacco Quitline Services, an initiative started by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and WHO in endeavour to stop smoking and chewing tobacco, a cause for TB and cancer in India and the World over.

This multi-authored book is a valuable reference for the undergraduates and postgraduate students and medical practitioners as well as faculty members of medical colleges in updating their knowledge about the diseases, patient care, treatment and management, and to control the spread of TB not only in our country but in Asia and the world over. The printing quality of the book is excellent and gives a smooth and pleasant reading.

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