Larry W. Moreland (Ed.)

Rheumatology and Immunology Therapy

A to Z Essentials

With 38 Figures and 33 Tables
The first edition of Rheumatology and Immunology Therapy: A to Z Essentials provides a comprehensive review of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology. It has been organized to assist medical students, residents, fellows, practicing rheumatologists as well as the general internist, and family practitioners to better understand the molecular and cellular aspects of clinical and basic immunology. In addition, each autoimmune disease is covered in detail from diagnostic considerations to therapeutic options. The intention of the editor and the numerous authors was to present and discuss the definitions in a concise manner. One objective was for the book to facilitate the introduction of clinical and basic immunology to the novice (for example students) as well as to serve as a valuable resource for the trained clinician.

Rheumatology and Immunology Therapy: A to Z Essentials discusses not only the basic molecular mechanisms that are central to many autoimmune and rheumatic diseases, but also covers in detail the clinical aspects of rheumatology and many other specialties involving autoimmune diseases (such as diabetes, multiple sclerosis, inflammatory bowel disease, etc.). In addition, there is detailed information regarding the anatomy of the musculoskeletal system, pathophysiology of each of the disease processes and an up-to-date review of the therapeutics for all rheumatological diseases. There is an extensive review of medications currently available for autoimmune disorders including the recently approved biological response modifiers. Moreover, those biological therapies in development are also listed.

The field of autoimmune diseases and immunology is expanding rapidly and therefore the context of this textbook of definitions is not only timely but will serve as a general review for those who need the quick up-to-date information on new therapeutics as well as basic information regarding autoimmune and immunological diseases. Many of the rare immunological conditions may present in children (for instance immunodeficiencies), and these are covered in detail providing a guide for the clinicians who will be seeing children with these presentations. Also, the uncommon inherited disorders that may present later in life (for example pseudoxanthoma elasticum, osteogenesis imperfecta, etc.) provide the readers with the depth of clinical disorders not seen in any other textbook.

The book should be recognized as a concise, authoritative, state of the art summary of clinical and basic information for physicians to know about autoimmune diseases and clinical immunology.

I am extremely grateful to the many authors for their dedication on the content of the textbook. I, too, have learned a lot of immunology from editing this textbook. My hope is that this book will help our trainees to become better physicians and scientists, and that they will thus continue to better serve our patients with these complex diseases. The goal of the is to educate healthcare providers ultimately to help improve the quality of life of our patients.

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