
The book is a compendium of the lectures given by the external speakers at the Hammersmith Hospital Course on the Clinical Applications Of Pulmonary Function, which took place between 1980 and 1995. The course content was for doctors in training who expected to be running a Pulmonary Function Laboratory. The book is meant to cater to both doctors and non-medical laboratory staff.

The book is written in a lucid manner. Sections I and II outline the physiological principles of pulmonary functions. Section III deals with the measurements of pulmonary function. Section IV deals with the routine laboratory function in cases referred from non-respiratory teams.

The theory behind the commonly used pulmonary function tests is explained in context of clinical application. This is not a technical manual telling how it is done but with focus on why and what is done in a pulmonary function test.

The book uses its own terms and abbreviations that are not commonly used but these are included in a glossary at the end of the book.

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This is an introductory textbook in psychology, which is quite comprehensive in its approach to the subject. The present edition is reorganized from its earlier edition and has fewer chapters.

The first chapter focuses on the origins of psychology, emergence of theoretical perspectives that dominate the field and the major areas of specialization in psychology. Subsequent chapters dwell on the exploration of five psychological themes that reflect the interaction of forces outside and within individuals, heredity and environment, biological continuity and human uniqueness, conscious and unconscious experience, individual differences and universal principles and the individual and society.

Questions are provided at the end of each chapter i.e., concept review questions and critical thinking questions. A bulleted list is provided at the end of each chapter summarizing the chapters' coverage.

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This textbook of physiology emphasizes the broad concepts. Important mechanistic homologies and critical interactions among the various organ systems are highlighted.

Section I the physico-chemical principles of physiology are analyzed in detail. When important principles are represented by equations, the basis of equations and the major underlying assumptions are written down in this textbook. Section II details the nervous system the next section deals with the muscular system, in which the emphasis is on the common characteristics and differences of the different types of muscles. The next section deals with the cardiovascular system which is discussed in detail, though the section on blood composition has been condensed. Section V deals with the respiratory system with special emphasis on the mechanics of breathing, the processes of gas exchange and the various neural and chemical controls on respiration. The subsequent three sections deal with the gastrointestinal system, kidney and the endocrine system.

The textbook does not mention any assumptions made in the area of physiology, and only firmly established facts and principles are detailed. Each chapter ends with a summary of the statements of important facts and concepts along with self study problems which are essay type questions and the answers are provided at the end of the book. The book ends with a set of multiple choice questions with answers.


This book is designed primarily for medical and graduate students. General concepts are amplified, keeping extraneous isolated facts to the minimum. Review articles form the source, for the book.

The most recent information is incorporated and the controversial subjects are so indicated. Emphasis is placed on control mechanisms. The component parts of the cardiovascular systems are first discussed individually and the last chapter discusses how each of the components are coordinated in the body in response to exercise and haemorrhage.

Self study problems are provided at the end of each chapter with answers given in an appendix.

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