
Preface

Medical Parasitology: A Textbook is the fruit of many years of experience in teaching medical students in the field of parasitology. We are teachers in one of the very few existing departments of parasitology around the world. This book intends to provide a systematic comprehension of the various medically important human parasites; their distribution, morphology, life cycle, pathogenesis and clinical features; and laboratory diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control. The main emphasis is on the protozoan and helminthic parasites including a brief mention of vectors relevant to infections caused by these parasites. Ectoparasites of medical importance are also included.

The study of parasitology is daunting to the uninitiated. This book aims to promote an easy yet comprehensive way of learning this subject. It attempts to simplify the complexity of medical parasitology into parts that are easy to understand, integrating the essential information of parasitic infections. This integration of knowledge will be achieved through reader-friendly illustrations, inclusion of a collection of case reports, samples of test questions and the images of human parasites. Essentially, the book provides a “one-stop learning package” for medical parasitology.

This book will be useful for medical students, medical lecturers, clinicians, researchers and also those interested in the fields of biology, zoology, microbiology, pathology, entomology, medicine, veterinary medicine, allied sciences, tropical medicine and public health.

We hope this book will be beneficial to a wide range of readers by giving them a better understanding and appreciation of medically important parasites and their infections.

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