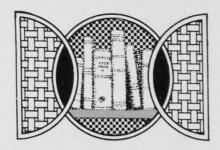
Book Reviews



Handbook for the Differential Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases. Jonas A. Shulman, David Schlossberg. Appleton-Century-Crofts, New York, 1980, 280 pp., \$13.50.

This is a useful book and reflects a well-organized approach to many of the more common problems of infectious disease practice. Divided into three basic sections, the first 12 chapters discuss differential diagnostic considerations. Chapter One, on fever, is the weakest of the lot. The others review succinct-

ly acute pneumonitis, spinal fluid pleocytosis, bacteriuria-pyuria, diarrhea, rash, mono- and polyarthritis, jaundice, splenomegaly, localized and generalized lymphadenopathy, and guidelines for infection in the compromised host. Numbered 2 to 12, the next 11 sections are charts relating to the preceding identically numbered chapters. The next 6 brief sections are appendixes offering advice about infection sources, transmission, hematologic changes, handling and

culture of specimen, serologic and skin tests, antibiotic sensitivity testing, and assays. The authors conclude with a selected bibliography for each major subject and a well-constructed index. While this book will not replace other, more detailed infectious disease sources, it should be most helpful to the busy physician, house officer, or student who needs accurate information quickly. The authors have succeeded in establishing the major steps needed in the initial management of some common problems. An infectious disease course might use it as the core text. Its modest price makes it particularly attractive. I recommend it highly to family physicians, resident physicians, students, and other health care clinicians.

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