The weak points of the book are few. As with any textbook that takes months to prepare, new developments are endemic. The first edition was a multi-authored textbook. The second edition has been entirely rewritten by two physicians with unique perspectives. Dr. Gilstrap and Faro is a valuable reference for clinicians who seek to understand the consequences of these varied infections for the mother and the fetus. The book is particularly appropriate for residents in obstetrics and gynecology and family practice, fellows in maternal-fetal medicine, medical infectious-disease consultants, and obstetrical nurse-practitioners.

The first edition was a multi-authored textbook. The second edition has been entirely rewritten by two physicians with unique perspectives. Dr. Faro is both a generalist clinician and an experienced research microbiologist. His influence is most evident in the clearly written descriptions of the microbiology, epidemiology, and pathophysiology of obstetrical infections. Dr. Gilstrap is an accomplished clinical investigator and an expert in the care of women with high-risk pregnancies. His effect on the narrative is most apparent in the thoughtful and carefully reasoned, evidence-based recommendations for treatment.

Infections in Pregnancy has several strengths. First, it is well organized and well written; the new format smooths out some of the irregularities inherent in any multi-authored textbook. Second, the book is comprehensive without being ponderous. It provides an excellent overview of maternal infections ranging from relatively uncomplicated vaginal and endocervical infections to life-threatening disorders such as septic shock, necrotizing fasciitis, and HIV infection. It also presents clear, concise reviews of the major perinatally transmitted infections, including rubella, varicella, syphilis, and toxoplasmosis and those due to parvovirus, hepatitis B, and cytomegalovirus. In recognition of the ever increasing frequency of international travel, the authors have also included a chapter on unusual parasitic diseases, such as babesiosis, trypanosomiasis, and leishmaniasis, which pose major threats to pregnant women who travel to or reside in areas of the world where these diseases are endemic. Third, the textbook is very well illustrated, especially the chapters on syphilis and protozoan infections. Fourth, the authors have provided exceptionally good diagnostic and management algorithms. These easy-to-follow diagrams are particularly helpful in understanding the more complicated maternal and fetal infections. The clarity of the algorithms is complemented by concise summaries of salient points at the end of each chapter.

The excellent search engine, Folio Infobase, provides sophisticated searching tools that use standard query operators and linked to citations within the text so that when you click on a highlighted bibliographical reference, the full abstract is displayed. Although not all textbook references are included in the Medline data base, this utility provides full coverage of abstracts in these journals regardless of whether they are cited in the text.

The second edition of Infections in Pregnancy by Gilstrap and Faro is a valuable reference for clinicians who seek to understand the consequences of these varied infections for the mother and the fetus. The book is particularly appropriate for residents in obstetrics and gynecology and family practice, fellows in maternal-fetal medicine, medical infectious-disease consultants, and obstetrical nurse-practitioners.

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tions. For example, cross-matching *cytomegalovirus* and *pneumocystis* resulted in 40 hits, indicating the wealth of clinically useful information found in this source. When searching for *mycoplasma* and *heart*, we found that although some of the 12 hits were irrelevant, mycoplasma is associated with myocarditis, mediastinitis that develops after heart transplantation, and wound infections as well as with infective endocarditis. This search proved to be an efficient preliminary step before doing a full Medline search of the literature. Needless to say, a similar procedure would be impossible with the printed version of the book.

Besides these search options, one is offered additional features, such as the ability to add notes and bookmarks and to highlight text. A minor drawback that is common to all electronic textbooks, including this one, is the lack of page numbering. This omission may become problematic when one wishes to cite this source in a manuscript.

In conclusion, we highly recommend the use of this comprehensive resource for routine clinical care of patients, and we recommend it even more highly in academic settings. However, the relatively high price tag might put off many potential users.

Daniel Mimouni, M.D.
Bellinson Medical Center
Petah-Tiqa, 49100 Israel

Eytan Z. Blumenthal, M.D.
Hadassah University Hospital
Jerusalem, 91120 Israel

TEXTBOOK OF TRAVEL MEDICINE AND HEALTH

(Distributed by Blackwell Science, Cambridge, Mass.) $125.


TENS of millions of trips are taken by travelers from developed to developing countries annually, for pleasure, business, education, and religious reasons and to visit family. Responding to the demand for travelers’ health services, clinics to provide immunizations, preventive medical advice, and diagnosis and treatment of exotic diseases have proliferated.

A modern textbook to guide that work is needed. This book was developed, as the editors state, “to provide a single source of information for physicians and paramedical personnel interested in the medical problems of travelers.” It achieves this goal remarkably well because of its organization and its expert authors. Most chapters have at least two authors, usually from different continents, giving the book a truly international flavor.

Some chapters are excellent, such as Peter H. Hackett’s “Medical Problems of High Altitude.” “Parasitic Tropical Infections,” by Mary Elizabeth Wilson and Thomas Lüöscher, is concise and practical. “Economic Evaluation in Travel Medicine,” by Philippe Beutels et al., analyzes the economic costs and benefits of measures such as specific immunizations. Jay S. Keystone and Daniel Reid remind us how difficult it is to get patients to follow advice in “Compliance with Travel Health Recommendations.” Chapters on unique problems of very-short-term travel; expatriates; expedition participants; traveling with children; pregnancy, nursing, contraception, and travel; and the aged, infirm, or handicapped traveler also excel.

The book has some faults. Repetitive information on obtaining a history and the delivery of pretravel health services is given in three chapters. The section “Travel and Travel Clinics in Asia” is limited to China, Hong Kong, and Singapore. The section “Physiology and Decompression: Diving-Related Health Problems” is too abbreviated. Chapter 11, “‘Hot and Cold!’ Medical Risks of Environmental Extremes,” does not discuss clothing. The chapter on wilderness clothing by A.L. Dickenson in *Wilderness Medicine*, edited by P.S. Auerbach (3rd ed. St. Louis: Mosby, 1995) covers that topic competently and should have been referenced.

Discrepancies between chapters need resolution. We are advised to boil water for five to seven minutes to make it potable on page 50 and just bring it to a boil on page 90. Fatal cardiac arrhythmias associated with halofantrine are not mentioned in the chapter “Treatment of Malaria,” but they are mentioned in that on emergency self-treatment of malaria.

The rarity of transmission of malaria above 2000 m should have been discussed under the epidemiology of the disease. The purpose of chapter 8, “Developing Regions,” is obscure, and its content could have been integrated elsewhere. The section on motion sickness is excessively historical and anecdotal and deals inadequately with prevention and treatment. Chapter 20, “Psychiatric Illness and Stress,” contains cryptic statements about complications of the use of monoamine oxidase inhibitors and lithium treatment that are neither substantive nor referenced. The problem of culture shock is covered superficially; a useful reference would have been *The Art of Crossing Cultures* by C. Storti (Yarmouth, Me.: Intercultural Press, 1989).

Two chapters contain potentially dangerous misinformation. Recommending tourniquets, ice, and incision for poisonous-snake bites is, at best, controversial and may increase morbidity and mortality. Postexposure rabies vaccination should be given intramuscularly, not intradermally, to patients who have been immunized before exposure, according to Public Health Service guidelines.

Imaginatively, the book predicts future trends in travel medicine. Unfortunately, the effect of environmental changes on future tourism and geographic medicine is neglected. Global warming could change the distribution of vectors of tropical diseases and cause coastal flooding and massive migrations. Loss of biodiversity will decrease the attractiveness of certain areas for tourism; countries that conserve their natural resources will become more desirable destinations.

The specialized medical organizations that promote continuing education and research in travel, tropical, and wilderness medicine are not mentioned. The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene offers an examination for certification in clinical tropical medicine and travelers’ health. That development should have been discussed in the chapter on travel medicine and travel clinics in the United States and Canada, and its implications for the future of the specialty should have been discussed in chapter 34 (“Travel Medicine 2007”).

Despite these shortcomings, this book organizes and presents a unique and broad range of information very