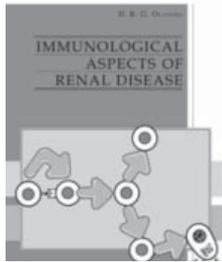


Book Review



Reviewed by: Elizabeth Hennes,
Renal Transplant Coordinator,
Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney

Immunological aspects of renal disease

Author: David B. G. Oliveira Cambridge University

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The Immunological aspects of renal disease is another addition to the Cambridge Reviews in Clinical Immunology Series. It is written by David Oliveira who is a research fellow at the Lister Institute and Honorary Consultant Nephrologist at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, UK.

The preface of this book clearly states that this book is not a comprehensive account of renal disease from an immunological perspective, rather an introductory guide with extensive referencing for those who wish to do further learning on topics of interest. The author acknowledged that certain topics had not been addressed in the book in particular the effects of renal failure on the immune system and transplantation.

The book has 11 chapters. The initial chapter is an introduction to basic immunology. Subsequent chapters deal with specific renal diseases such as Anti-GBM disease, membranous nephropathy, lupus nephritis, IgA-related glomerulonephropathies, mesangiocapillary glomerulonephritis, minimal change nephropathy and focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, systemic vasculitis and crescentic glomerulonephritis, tubulointerstitial nephritis, other renal disease of immunological interest and therapeutic aspects.

Each chapter has a similar layout with an introductory section, sections on immunogenetics, immunopathogenesis (with a small section on animal models

and more comprehensive section on human disease), therapeutic aspects and concluding remarks. There is extensive referencing at the end of each chapter for further reading.

In summary *Immunological aspects of renal disease* is a book that would be suitable for doctors training in Immunology or Nephrology. It is a good introductory immunology text and the extensive referencing is a beneficial guide for those wishing to do further reading on a topic. I think it would be a difficult book for undergraduate nurses to understand. It is unfortunate that transplantation is not included in the text but it would be a useful reference book for renal nurses interested in the immunological aspects of nephrology diseases.

Next RSAJ Issue - Floods, Earthquakes, Cyclones and Bushfires

Our next RSAJ issue will be focussing on the run of natural disasters that Australians and New Zealanders have endured over the past two years, notably floods, earthquakes, cyclones and bushfires.

Providing renal health services to people with kidney disease in times of these disasters is a huge challenge.

We would like to hear from any nurse or other health professional who has a story to tell. It may be as small as one page (about 300 words) or it may be longer. RSAJ Editors will be happy to assist your writing if you wish.

We can all learn from our experiences and by sharing them may enable us to improve our future natural disaster renal responses.

Please email me your story or send me an email if you have an idea and just want some assistance p.bennett@deakin.edu.au.

Paul Bennett RSAJ Editor