

### Human physiology

ANDREW DAVIES, ASA G.H. BLAKELEY, CECIL KIDD. 980 pp. **Price:** US\$31.99. **Publisher:** Harcourt Publishers Ltd. **Date of Publication:** 2001. **Place of Publication:** UK. **ISBN:** 0-443-045593

This is one of the latest entrants to the over-crowded field of excellent texts on medical physiology. Like the best of them all, it presents a core of human physiology appropriate for students of medicine, dentistry and allied health professions in a concise yet complete, color and beautifully illustrated form. Unlike previous texts, it emphasizes the problem solving approach favored in new physiology curricula in the United Kingdom, United States of America and elsewhere. Much of the didactic component has been removed. In addition to providing core physiology, it contains several features, which would make learning and teaching physiology from this book, easy and enjoyable. These include: Applied physiology chapters – devoted to integrative topics such as exercise, temperature regulation, shock and so forth; Basic sciences box – containing brief explanations of the basic physical or biological principles underlying physiology especially in those areas where students are

known to encounter difficulties; Clinical example – that demonstrate the application of physiology knowledge to clinical situations; Recent advances – highlighting areas where knowledge is advancing rapidly and which may have important implications for the future; Summary box – focusing attention on the essentials of each topic; Multiple choice questions with explanatory answers – for testing understanding and reinforcing learning. The comprehensive treatment given to all areas of medical physiology in this book makes it a good reference material for doctors and other health professional. Indeed, Human Physiology is a medical physiology textbook, which both students and instructors have been waiting for. How sad that Professor Asa Blakeley who originally conceived this project did not live to see the publication of an excellent book!

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