The human body. An introduction to structure and function

ADOLF FALLER, MICHAEL SCHUNKE, GABRIELE SCHUNKE. 708 pp . Price: 34.95 UERD/59.40 CHF. Publisher: Thieme Flexibook. Year of Publication: 2004. Place of Publication: GERMANY. ISBN: 3-13-129271-7.

The book is well presented and the coverage is good. It is also well organized into chapters. At the end of each chapter, there is an efficient summary. The language is simple and easily understood. However, there is few spelling mistakes: for example in page 5: enthusiam (correct: enthusiasm); in page 56: advntageous (correct: advantageous). The illustrations are simple, well presented and meaningful. The book contents includes a simple approach to the structure and function of the body systems. Brief notes on cell biology, genetics and evolution, reproduction, pre- and postnatal development, quantities and units of measurements are also included.

The book is addressed to paramedical students (students of Allied Medicine of Nursing), to
students of College of Pharmacy or College of Sciences. It could also be beneficial to students of Medicine in their preparatory year. The book does not cover a specific field of Medicine. It is insufficient even for the students of the first year of Medicine.

The price of this book is about 180 SR . It is expensive, even compared to the textbooks for students of Medicine (for example the price of Snell's Clinical Anatomy for 1st and 2nd year of Medicine is 70 SR from the University Library and about 140 SR from outside the University).

In conclusion the book gives the basic knowledge concerning the structure and function of the body systems in a simplified manner for paramedical students. Its language is simple and its illustrations are expressive. However, it is not a "good-buy" due to its price that seems to me too expensive.

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