

Book Reviews

Helptinstall's Pathology of the Kidney, Volumes I and II, 5th Edition.

Edited by J. Charles Jennette, Jean L. Olson, Melvin L. Schwartz and Fred G. Silva. Available from Lippincott-Raven Publishers, P.O. Box 1640, Hagerstown, MD 21741-1640, USA. Price: US\$373.00. ISBN: 0-7817-1533-4.

It was indeed with pleasure and expectation that I received a copy of the fifth edition of *Helptinstall's Pathology of the Kidney, Volumes I and II*. This book is very well known to pathologists interested in renal pathology, many of whom have practically "grown up" with it. The new edition is a multi-author book consisting of contributions from more than thirty well-known and experienced nephrologists from Europe and North America. The size of the pages has been increased compared to the previous editions. This new format has made it possible to produce the book in two rather than three volumes, which is a welcome change. The quality of editing and printing is excellent. The book is divided into six sections, each of which consists of several chapters. Section I deals with the anatomy and embryology of the kidney, mechanisms of acute inflammatory and immunologic injury, and progression of renal disease, and has a chapter on pathologic diagnosis of

renal diseases. Section II provides a comprehensive discussion of glomerular diseases, and Section III deals with tubulointerstitial diseases and infections of the kidney. Sections IV and V cover vascular disease and renal hereditary and metabolic diseases. The last section deals with miscellaneous subjects, including end-stage renal diseases, renal transplant pathology and renal neoplasms. Throughout the book, there is great emphasis on clinicopathologic correlations and pathophysiology of various disease processes, thus providing a comprehensive discussion of virtually all important topics in renal pathology. The book is profusely illustrated with high-quality photographs, including gross pictures, photomicrographs and electron micrographs. There are numerous tables which help in understanding complicated concepts and give a comprehensive overview of current literature. The references are well selected and up-to-date. This book is an absolute must for those pathologists who deal with renal pathology on a daily basis, but will also be extremely useful as a reference book for general pathologists and nephrologists. The price of \$373 appears reasonable for this beautifully produced book.

Mohammed Akhtar, MD, FCAP, FCRPA, FRCPath
*Chairman, Department of Pathology
and Laboratory Medicine, MBC-10
King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre
P.O. Box 3354, Riyadh 11211, Saudi Arabia*