

BOOK REVIEWS

Diabetes mellitus is an increasing worry of the medical community and at the end of the 20th century most populations had witnessed a significant increase in incidence in both type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus. Two new books on this topic have recently been published:

Textbook of Diabetes, 3rd Edition (2 volumes), edited by J.C. Pickup and G. Williams. Blackwell Science, Oxford, 2002. Hardcover, pp 1472. Price: £ 250. ISBN 0-632-05915-X.

This new edition 5 years after the previous one is a very updated text. New data on molecular discoveries in etiology of disease, physiology of insulin, pathophysiology of types of diabetes mellitus, new drugs, new hormones involved in carbohydrate, fat and protein metabolism are reviewed in 19 sections and 76 chapters, written by an international team. The text is clear with many colored tables and figures. References are up to 2001. Excellent for teachers and very useful for individuals in training to understand and treat diabetes mellitus. This book should be in the library of any institution researching or treating individuals with diabetes mellitus. The editors, authors and publisher should be commended.

Cardiovascular Risk in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus - Assessment and Control, edited by N. Hancu. Springer Verlag, Berlin, 2003. Hardcover, pp 286. Price not stated. ISBN 3-540-43803-3.

New therapies have helped postpone the cardiovascular complications of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus and have improved their treatment. However, there is so far no way to prevent their appearance and even with the best of treatment, mortality is increased. This volume, written

by authors from several countries, is devoted to cardiovascular pathology in type 2 diabetes mellitus in adults. As in recent years there has been an increase in obesity and type 2 diabetes mellitus in children and adolescents, this book is also of interest to pediatric endocrinologists.

Child and Adolescent Obesity - Causes and Consequences, Prevention and Management, edited by W. Burniat, T.J. Cole, I. Lissau and E.M.E. Poskitt. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2002. Hardcover, pp 416. Price: £ 65 / US\$ 90. ISBN 0-521-65237-5.

The increasing evidence of obesity and type 2 diabetes mellitus in childhood is alarming pediatricians all over the world, thus the title is very welcoming. This interdisciplinary text is written by authors from several countries engaged in the various aspects of obesity. It is divided into three parts. Part I. Causes: six chapters on definition, epidemiology, molecular and biological factors acting on adipose tissue, development, nutrition, physical activity and psychological factors. Part II. Consequences: five chapters review clinical features, Prader-Willi and other obesity syndromes, and cardiovascular complications. In this section, I missed type 2 diabetes mellitus. Part III. Prevention and Management: ten chapters. The authors discuss medical, nutritional, psychological and surgical approaches to therapy. The last chapter reviews future problems and possible approaches to obesity. A useful book, referenced up to 2000, summarizing classical knowledge and approaches, but will this suffice to solve the ever-increasing problem? For pediatricians, pediatric endocrinologists, nutritionists, epidemiologists, psychologists, sports educators and research pharmacologists.