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Book review

Clinical Immunology of the Dog and Cat

Michael J. Day, US\$ 99, ISBN 1-874545-98-7

This textbook is well written and will undoubtedly serve as a useful reference source for veterinary students and practitioners in speciality or general practice. The strength of the textbook is the presence of numerous diagrams, figures, and photographs. The diagrams are extremely well done and facilitate the understanding of immunological principles presented in this text. The color photographs of histopathology, cytology, and clinical conditions are superb, with excellent clarity and color.

The first three chapters discusses the basic immunology and mechanisms of immunemediated disease. These figures in these chapters are excellent, however, there is a tendency to rely on the images to explain some principles that could be made clearer with some additional text description. Overall, these chapters are well done.

The clinical chapters are organized by organ system. They are very complete and have superb color photographs. The diagnosis and therapy of most individual disorders are discussed but not in detail. That was not possible due to the unavailability of space, nor is it the apparent intent of the authors. Practitioners will need to consult other reference materials for comprehensive diagnostic and therapeutic options. These chapters do provide insight into the disease mechanisms, and therefore would be useful to the practitioner.

This textbook would be a wonderful reference source for students in the veterinary curriculum at all levels, for resident training, and for the discerning practitioner and specialist. It is easy to read and the superb images help to explain many immunology principles and provide an insight into the diverse nature of clinical conditions that are immunologically-mediated.

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