

# New Books

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**Patch Testing and Prick Testing, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition**  
Edited by Jean-Marie Lachapelle, Howard I Maibach.  
Springer. 2009, XVIII, 195 p. 80 illus., 78 in color.  
Hardcover. ISBN: 978-3-540-92805-8

Knowledge in the field of allergic contact dermatitis has developed to a considerable degree. Newly developed patch testing and prick testing techniques include open, semi-open, and repeated open application tests (ROAT), in addition to use tests, photopatch tests, and provocation tests. Changes in the environment mean that series of patch tests—the so-called standards—are regularly updated.

This new edition is completely revised, updated, and expanded. It is reader-friendly with core messages and more flowcharts and illustrations. It is an invaluable guide for dermatologists and other health professionals treating patients with skin disease.

**Annual Review of Immunology, Vol 27**  
Edited by Paul, Littman, Yokoyama. Annual Reviews Inc.  
2009. ISBN 978-0-8243-3027-9. ISSN 0732-0582

Annual Reviews Inc. began in 1932 with the publication of the “Annual Review of Biochemistry.” This company is administered by a Board of Directors whose members serve without compensation as a nonprofit scientific publisher established to promote the advancement of science through the publication of high-quality, reasonably priced volumes.

These volumes are organized by editors and editorial committees who invite qualified authors to contribute critical articles reviewing significant developments within each major discipline.

For allergologists, these reviews provide a good starting

point for updating knowledge in the different areas of immunology research.

## **Dermatologic Immunity**

Edited by Brian J. Nickoloff, Frank O. Nestle. Karger.  
2008. VIII + 382 p., 45 fig., 4 in color, 25 tab. Hardcover.  
CHF380.-/EUR 271.50/USD 380.00. Prices subject to  
change. ISBN 978-3-8055-8391-6

The skin is the largest organ in the body. It is constantly attacked by a diverse array of pathogenic agents including bacteria, viruses, and fungi. It also experiences solar damage and wide fluctuations in temperature and humidity. In some individuals, the immune system, which normally offers protection against fatal external assaults, can malfunction and cause chronic inflammation in the absence of a known pathogen, resulting in a host of disorders categorized as autoimmune skin diseases.

This volume contains a series of 19 review articles on a wide range of autoimmune disease processes affecting the skin. Featuring disorders of humoral as well as cellular immunity, it covers allergic contact dermatitis, toxic epidermal necrolysis, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, cutaneous lupus erythematosus, bullous pemphigoid, pemphigus foliaceus, lichen planus, vitiligo, scleroderma, alopecia areata, and dermatomyositis. The latest insights into the pathophysiology of these diseases, as well as therapeutic strategies to combat them, are presented by experts in the fields of dermatology, genetics, immunology, and pathology. Overviews of the skin as an active immune organ and of the immune privilege of the skin are also included.

Comprehensive and up-to-date, this book is recommended for basic and clinical researchers, allergists, immunologists, dermatologists, internists, and anyone interested in autoimmunity.