

# New Books

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## **The Toxicant Induction of Irritant Asthma, Rhinitis, and Related Conditions**

Meggs, William J (Ed.) SPRINGER. 2013, VI, 294 p. 24 illus., 18 illus. in color. ISBN 978-1-4614-9044-9

### *About this book*

- Summarizes current understand of the role of respiratory irritants in inducing and exacerbating asthma, rhinitis, and related conditions
- Constitutes essential reading for researching investigating chemical irritants, physicians caring for patients with asthma and rhinitis, as well as their patients and family members
- Explores the brain as a target organ for both allergic and irritant reactions

Untoward reactions to environmental chemicals, particularly when a subject reports difficulties with exposures to chemicals of diverse classes involving more than one organ system, have been poorly understood and an area of great controversy. Studies of airway inflammation induced by respiratory irritants have established neurogenic inflammation as the mechanism for irritant asthma and rhinitis. Remodeling of the airway after an acute irritant exposure can lead to a heightened sensitivity to irritants that persists. Recognition that rhinitis, while sometimes regarded as a trivial disease, is associated with extra-airway manifestations such as fatigue and disturbances of sleep, mood, and cognition, further elucidates how chemical exposures can be serious for susceptible individuals.

This book reviews current scientific understanding of irritant airway inflammation and related conditions, including cardiovascular effects of particulate exposures, airborne contact dermatitis and irritant dermatitis, and the brain as a target organ for both allergic and irritant reactions. It is essential reading for physicians and other healthcare workers caring for patients with environmental intolerances. Allergists, toxicologists, occupational and environmental physicians, and pulmonologists will find the materials particularly valuable. Patients and advocates for those with chemical intolerances will also find the book of interest.

## **Textbook of Hand Eczema**

Alikhan, Ali, Lachapelle, Jean-Marie, Maibach, Howard I. (Eds.) SPRINGER. 2014, XX, 455 p. 114 illus., 105 illus. in color. ISBN 978-3-642-39546-8

### *About this book*

- A Publication of the International Contact Dermatitis Group
- Comprehensive and detailed overview of hand eczema
- Covers classification, etiology, diagnosis, prevention, and therapy

- Innovative, up to date, and practical
- Written by world leaders in the field

Hand eczema is a major complaint worldwide and a frequent occupational disorder. This book provides a comprehensive and detailed overview of the classification, etiology, diagnosis, prevention, and therapy of hand eczema. It is innovative, up to date, and practical. The links with particular occupations are explained, the various diagnostic tests are presented, and the role of different topical and systemic treatments is clearly described. The authors are world leaders in the field. The Textbook of Hand Eczema reflects a new era in hand dermatitis and will be invaluable for all who deal with the condition in their clinical practice.

## **History of allergy**

### **Chemical Immunology and Allergy, Vol 100**

Edited by Karl-Christian Bergmann and Johannes Ring. KARGER. XX + 426 p., 257 fig. 127 in color, 20 tab., 2014. ISBN 978-3-318-02194-3 (hard cover); e-ISBN 978-3-318-02195-0

The prevalence of allergic diseases has increased dramatically over recent decades, both in terms of the number of sufferers and the number of allergies. This is a trend that has frequently been referred to as “the epidemic of the 21<sup>st</sup> century”. As described in ancient texts, allergies have been known for over 2000 years, but the term “allergy” was only coined at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when doctors began to understand their pathophysiology basis.

This book presents a detailed and varied historical overview of the field of allergology. Beginning with insights into allergy from an antiquity to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the development of the associated terminology, it compiles historical reflections on the understanding of the most common allergic diseases. Important milestones in the discovery of mechanisms of allergy are described, followed by historical accounts of the detection of allergens such as pollen, dust mites, peanuts and latex, and of environmental influences such as pollution and the relationship between farmers and their environment. Several chapters illustrate the progress made in allergy management to date. Particular highlights of this book are the personal reflections of and interviews with a number of pioneers of allergy, including F Austen, J Bienenstock, K Blaser, A de Weck, AW Frankland, K Ishizada, and many more. Concluding with portrayals of allergy societies and collections, as well as being supplemented by two films, this book represents a veritable treasure trove of fascinating and richly illustrated information.

Not only researchers, physicians and medical historians, but also students and even non-scientists will find *History of Allergy* a scientific adventure not worth reading.