
There has been wide interest in approaching, visualising and making tissue diagnosis of mediastinal and pulmonary lesions by minimal invasive techniques. In 1960s, the technique of mediastinoscopy was introduced for diagnosis and surgical management of lesions of the mediastinum as well as for lung cancer. This invasive technique required expertise, although it remained a gold standard until modern imaging modalities (CT and PET) became available. Besides, bronchoscopy started being employed widely for obtaining material for exfoliative cytology (e.g. bronchial brushing, bronchial washing, bronchoalveolar lavage) as also for aspiration cytology (e.g. transbronchial needle aspiration, i.e. TBNA). Guided transcutaneous approach for obtaining material for cytologic diagnosis of lung and mediastinal masses has also been practised with good success.

The curved linear array ultrasound attached with endoscope has been used by gastroenterologists for many years but a similar approach for lung and mediastinal lesions called endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) for obtaining TBNA started about a decade ago. There is a paucity of study material in the form of book or manual on such a sub-speciality which newer centres aspiring to start this technique may find handy and useful.

The book contains 13 chapters which are rationally divided into technical aspects and interpretation of cytologic material obtained. Understandably, the entire procedure and technique require a team work involving the pulmonary physician and a cytologist; accordingly appropriate chapters have been contributed by clinical experts and cytopathologists. The book opens with an introductory chapter connecting the readers with what they already know from traditional knowledge of the field and what they would learn after reading this book. Anatomical considerations on the thorax and mediastinum, and comparison of EBUS-TBNA with other diagnostic modalities from a clinicians point of view are outlined in two separate chapters by clinical experts. These chapters are well supported with tables, schematic illustrations and CT images. In these chapters, fairly detailed technical aspects of performing EBUS-TBNA including the equipment used by pulmonologists and the rapid on-site evaluation (ROSE) of diagnostic material obtained are given, supported with good illustrations of all steps involved. Cytopathologists’ perspective in diagnostic performance of EBUS-TBNA including indications, specimen collection, processing, schematic approach to cytological evaluation, assessment for specimen adequacy are adequately covered in separate chapters. Interpretative aspects based on cytomorphology have been dealt with well in chapters starting with normal and non-neoplastic components, followed by chapters on epithelial and non-epithelial primary and metastatic tumours of the lung and mediastinum, and non-neoplastic lesions of these sites encountered in various cytologic material. A separate chapter is given on contaminants, artifacts and mimics seen in TBNA by this technique which should help the readers in being aware of their possibilities. All these chapters are well supported with schematic representations, tables, CT images, photographs of equipment and valuable photomicrographs.

Since this is the first edition of the book, a critical reader is likely to come across some mistakes in
spellings, incomplete sentences and some incorrectly placed paragraphs here and there due to technical mistakes in composing of the manuscript. The authors would surely make efforts to remove these small shortcomings and errors in the next possible reprint edition of the book.

On the whole, the book should find use in teaching hospitals, medical centres and clinical service departments where care of patients with diseases of lungs, mediastinum and thymus is being provided, especially in centres where they are either doing EBUS-TBNA or planning to start it. The book is handy, text is easy to understand and images are mostly good and is worth recommending to readers interested in this subspecialty.

**Harsh Mohan**
Department of Pathology
Government Medical College & Hospital
Chandigarh 160 031, India
drharshmohan@gmail.com


This book is a compilation of 18 comprehensive and readable essays. Hysteria has been a fascinating topic for centuries. It continues to be a clinical dilemma and a challenge even today. Thus, in this context, this book is also a collection of the developments and current status of this interesting topic. The term hysteria went into disrepute and has been replaced by conversion and dissociation disorders, which are rather inadequate and fail to communicate the mystique of hysteria.

The book starts with the essays on the historical understanding and development of the concept starting with the socio-economic background of hysteria of the 18th century to the World War I and then the epidemiology of hysteria. The latter essays have looked at the current status of hysteria around the world, its treatment, and hysteria today and tomorrow. Though the book gives a comprehensive global and historical overview of hysteria, it leaves the reader with curiosity and enchantment, for which this topic is well known.

The book gradually develops on the previous understanding of hysteria based on at a new understanding based on explanatory models, psychoanalysis, psychodynamics and other psychological mechanisms. It concludes with the role of functional neuroimaging and neural circuits in the causation of hysteria. It is a balanced book which provides both controversies as well as the clinical outlook of hysteria. The essays in this book will dispel misgivings about hysteria among health professionals and general public. As the editor points out in the preface that hysterical symptoms were/are considered as neurological by psychiatrists, and a psychiatric condition by neurologists, the study of hysteria by modern technology of imaging and neurophysiology is likely to unravel many more mysteries of the mind and brain.

This book would interest not only psychiatrists, psychologists and mental health professionals but also neurologists and medical physicians since they are all likely to encounter causes of hysteria in their clinical practice. Certain essays discussing hysteria in the novels and medical shows may attract even those who are not health professionals to read this collection.

This book has a good collection of rare pictures of documents and various practitioners of the last few centuries. The authors of individual chapters are from France, or Switzerland (the editor) and have thus focused on the presentations in the European countries. Hysterical presentations in the developed world have become extinct or metamorphosed, but these are still widely prevalent in the developing countries and the Indian subcontinent. Some of these forms of dissociation and hysteria like trance, fugues and possessions, and their association with religion and spirituality are conspicuous by their absence. Hysteria lives on, under different guises and forms, along with its ghosts, so even if, hysteria sees an end in medical practice, the ghost would live forever.

This is a gripping book, difficult to put down and almost reads like a thriller or a novel. It is advisable for most medical practitioners to read. It should find a place in all medical libraries or libraries of history of medicine. It should also be a mandatory reading for all mental health professionals. Overall, it would be an enjoyable book to read and understand the concept of hysteria – the charming disorder!

**Santosh K. Chaturvedi**
Department of Psychiatry
National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences
Bengaluru 560 029, Karnataka, India
chatur.nimhans@nic.in

Glomerular diseases are important and a common group of renal disease in clinical practice. There are three main components of the glomerulus; mesangium, basement membrane and cells. Mesangial, endothelial and epithelial cells, both visceral and parietal, form the cellular component. Podocytes are highly differentiated visceral epithelial cells that wrap around the glomerular capillaries and are connected to the underlying basement membrane with inter-digitating foot processes. The rate of turnover of a podocyte is very slow and these also have a limited capability to proliferate. Primary functions of podocytes are capillary support, filtration barrier, glomerular basement synthesis and repair, cross-talk with other glomerular cells and some immunological function. Podocytes response to injury is also limited in the sense that either these deplete in number or hypertrophy or are subjected to epithelial-mesenchymal transformation (EMT).

This book is a compilation of articles related to podocytes in health and disease. Podocyte biology and its implication in relation to primary as well as secondary glomerular diseases, including genetic diseases has been the focus of intensive research in the field of nephrology in the last decade. This research has wide implications in terms of basic science (such as the structure of the extracellular membrane) and pharmacology (like identification of targetable kinases that function within these cells). This book discusses important aspects of podocyte structure and function and describes how advances in our understanding of these areas are increasing our knowledge of the pathogenesis of glomerular disease, enabling the identification of novel therapeutic targets. Chapters are appropriately grouped starting from podocyte biology to podocytes in primary and secondary glomerular diseases followed by podocytes as target for therapy and lastly new methods for studying podocytopathies.

Though the chapters and topics included are important, certain areas of nephrology related to podocyte injury are missing in the book. The authors could have included a chapter on biomarkers for podocyte injury and related issues. There are components of podocytes that can be identified in the urine of patients afflicted with glomerulopathies. These may serve as useful biomarkers, and as such this potentially may provide a number of possible routes of investigation. Another area which would have been useful for the readers is congenital and hereditary diseases such as diffuse mesangial sclerosis, congenital nephrotic syndrome and Alport’s disease and many more. Also, missing is thrombotic microangiopathy and podocyte injury secondary to blockage of podocyte-derived vascular endothelial growth factor like in pre-eclampsia and drugs like bevacizumab, etc. Another area of glomerular diseases where the role of podocytes is important and a disease group which has serious clinical implications is collapsing glomerulopathy. Lastly, inflammatory glomerular diseases like systemic lupus erythematosus, IgA nephropathy and crescentic glomerulonephritis and their relation with podocytes are also missing. If the above mentioned areas were also included, this book would have been a complete compilation of podocyte knowledge for basic scientists as well as clinicians.

Chapters included are short with colourful diagrams and the flow of content is good for the reader to cover a large number of pages in a short time, even in topics involving molecular biology. Tables and pictures are appropriately chosen to explain the issues. Overall, this book will be useful for those nephrologists who wish to understand the recent advances and changing concepts of common proteinuric illness and glomerular diseases in relation to glomerular biology.

Sanjay K. Agarwal
Department of Nephrology
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
New Delhi 110 029, India
skagarwalnephro@gmail.com