Human Physiology by Rodney Rhoades Ph.D, and Richard P Flanzer Ph.D. 4th edition. Published by Thomson-Brooks/Cole United States 2003. Pages 1088 Hard bound. Price \$60/- ISBN : 0-03-032129-8.

"Human Physiology" is a valuable book with a user friendly and innovative approach to the subject. This book of basic Physiology is appropriate especially for students attempting to undertake a course in basic sciences at the undergraduate level. It is organised so that the topics progress from the molecular level to integrated organ function. The language is simple and direct and various concepts lucidly explained.

The introductory chapters on historical aspects and the scientific approach are valuable to the fresh students of physiology and also serve as a review for the senior students. The book has wonderful diagrams and flow charts, which are liberal, accurate and excellently executed and serve to emphasize the various physiological concepts. Each chapter begins with a set of key concepts and ends with a review summary both of which are good learning aids. Each chapter is also accompanied with focus boxes on applied physiology and physiological research. These are great strength in the book, but it is felt that the various aspects of applied physiology could be dealt with in greater depth so as to be more useful to a student of

medicine studying Physiology.

Each chapter in the book is also accompanied by a set of case history questions and excellent review MCQs : which would be useful to the student for self-assessment at the end of a particular topic. There are adequate and comprehensive appendices devoted to research techniques, normal physiological values and medical terminology.

The various aspects of physiology are covered reasonably well, however, it was found that the physiology of regional circulations especially the coronary and cerebral circulation could have been dealt with in greater detail, especially as they are of increasing relevance in the present day context.

In all, Human Physiology is a good basic book for the undergraduate student and an excellent source book for a basic sciences educator who would like to integrate physiology from the molecular to the systemic level.

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Oxford Text book of Orthopedics and Trauma : Edited by Christopher Bulstrode, Joseph Buckwalter, Andrew Carr, Larry Marsh, Jeremy Fairbank, James Wilson-McDonald and Gaven Bowden. Three Vol. set. Published by Oxford University Press, Oxford 2002, pp2774, ISBN 0 19 262681 7 Price 350 Pound Sterling.

The Orthopedic textbook is a latest addition to the library of Oxford University press Medical publications. The book has been presented in its traditional modest cover binding. It has seven editors, five parts and has contributions from 330 authors. Most of the authors are from UK and others from USA and few from European countries. A surprising thing about the book is, that though the book is published in Oxford, it uses American English spellings (Orthopedics, Anemia, Paediatric, Tumor etc.). The book has been divided into five sections viz. Fundamentals, Adult Orthopaedics, Trauma, Paediatric Orthopaedics and Paediatric Trauma. But some of the topics discussed under these head are unrelated to the sections eg. under section Fundamentals, Tumours are discussed, under Adult Orthopaedics, predominantly paediatric diseases like acute hematogenous osteomyelitis, septic arthritis, poliomyelitis, spinal deformities of infants and children are discussed. In a chapter also, the authors have not followed the logical sequence eg. in knee, after cemented knee replacement authors discuss patellofemoral joint, ACL surgery, PCL and then

unicompartmental knee replacement, which could have been covered in knee replacement chapter itself. In ankle section, authors discuss arthritis of ankle, then disorders of first ray and then discuss disorders of subtalar joint. Uncommon topics like osteonecrosis of knee have received wide coverage and common conditions like CTEV, are briefly discussed even without illustrations, diseases like congenital torticollis, basics and types of non-unions have not even been covered. Topics like North American perspective of osteonecrosis of femoral head are unnecessary for a textbook of this nature. Unlike any other western book, which spares little space for diseases of third world countries, this book has chapters on poliomyelitis and musculoskeletal tuberculosis and leprosy, which have been contributed by authors from India.

Certain topics like myositis ossificans, limb salvage in tumour and trauma; Protrusio and patellectomy are well covered. The layout and formatting is good but small fonts make slow reading. Important points have been highlighted in gray shaded boxes for easy attention. Quality of photographs and X-rays are excellent. Overall, the book is good and recommended for the institutional libraries.

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