## **Book Review**

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## IAPSM's Textbook of Community Medicine

Editor-in-Chief: A. M. Kadri

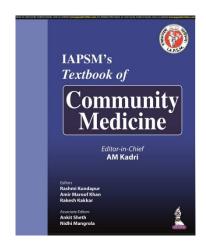
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A great effort by the editor-in-chief, Dr. A. M. Kadri, a well-known academician and teacher as well as the secretary general of IAPSM for more than three years, to compile the work of over 200 authors who are subject experts and teachers of Community Medicine from all over India. This book exhibits expertise of the subject from every nook and corner of India. It is nicely framed and the font size, print, tables, diagrams are reader friendly and pleasing to the eyes.

It contains 51 chapters under five sections with gradual transition from Basics to Core sciences to managing community health in India. The first chapter itself- "Story of the upstream" is a fantastic way to introduce the subject to the beginners. Many of us who are still in confusion of how to explain our specialty to a layman can now easily do it citing this excellent example. Basics of epidemiology chapter has many lucid examples like calculation of various rates of epidemiological measurements for easy comprehension. Similarly, chapter on research methodology is nicely written, concise in nature yet does not miss any details. One of the exclusive features is, modeling of sample questionnaires, consent forms with examples of research questions simulating real life examples on how to proceed methodically in pursuing scientific research. Case scenarios at the start of some chapters, are a unique concept to introduce the objective of the subject. The notes in between the chapters are good for reinforcing the important points. Newer topics like "Achievements in Community Medicine" highlights what the specialty has done to the wellbeing and progress of the community and instills a sense of inclusiveness in the minds of any reader which is vital for sustainment of Community Medicine fraternity in today's competitive medical world.

A few recent updates are missing like new WHO childhood Pneumonia guidelines 2014, WHO Rabies updates 2018 and additions/changes in national immunization schedule only up to February 2017. In the chapter of "Water and Health", topics like methods of water purification, chlorination of water for drinking purpose etc., could have been elaborated a bit further for conceptual understanding as these are very vital components of public health in context of new urbanized and industrialized India. Similarly, "Use of information technology in community health care" chapter misses the elaborative mentioning of various portals of GOI based on real time data such as new RCH portal, Health and wellness, IHIP and DVDMS could have been added for sensitization of all budding medical officers. We are sure the next edition will take care of these aspects.

Despite all these, this publication from IAPSM is an allin-one book as far as UG students are concerned. For postgraduates a very comprehensive one for a quick revision before the exams. It is also handy for the faculty before any lecture or presentation. It has the potential to be the leader amongst peers and replace established books of the subject. We believe this book will enlighten the path of knowledge transformation of reader from, "knows, knows how, shows how and to does" effectively.

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