

BOOK REVIEW - LIVROS

ROITT, Ivan, ed. - *Essential Immunology*. 7ed. London, Blackwell Scientific Publ., 1991. ISBN 0-632-02877-7.

As Professor I. Roit says in his didactic Preface the 6th. edition of *Essential Immunology* (1988, 1989) was almost re-written and this 7th. edition (1991) was extensively revised yet again and incorporates major advances in some areas as: novel structure of class I and class II major histocompatibility complex molecules and their relationship to processed antigen presentation to T cells; T- Cell receptors and recognition of heat shock proteins; the complex cytokine network and cytokine secretion in response to different infections; new models, therapies and understanding of AIDS; genetically engineered antibodies; peptide vaccines; use of anti-CD4 and anti-CD8 to induce tolerance in the adult; update on CD and HLA nomenclature.

Concerning to the 5 th. edition of *Essential Immunology* (1984) the last version that arrived in Brazil, this new edition is a radically new book, although it continues being comprehensive and clear both in the illustrations and the text. The book is divided in 15 chapters and covers, for example, innate and specific acquired immunity; molecules which recognize antigens; the recognition of antigen; development and control of acquired immune response, immunity to infection, hypersensitivity, autoimmune diseases and transplantation.

This 7th. edition of *Essential Immunology* retains its main task of teaching new concepts with clarity of presentation. This book like previous versions is recommended for medical and biology students who are receiving their first introduction to the fascinating field of Immunology.

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