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Otilia Lucian: Lambliaza. 248 pp. Editura Academiei Republicii Socialiste Romania, Bucurest 1971. Lei 24,50

The monograph on lambliasis written in Rumanian, covers all aspects of this disease, from the history of its discovery and the taxonomy of its pathogenic agent, *Giardia lamblia*, to problems of the clinic, epidemiology and prevention.

The introductory chapters discuss in detail the morphology and biology of the parasite. The drawings might have been more informative and less antiquated in appearance, because the author inspected the flagellate in both the light and electron microscope and seems well-acquainted with the pertinent literature. The chapters on the pathogenic role of the flagellate, the mechanism of its action, on pathological anatomy and on the clinic reflect the author's special interest in this field. The problems of diagnosis, treatment and the epidemiology of lambliasis are discussed in detail and are evidently based on the author's extensive experiences. The chapter dealing with the clinic contains comprehensive information on the x-ray picture of gastrointestinal anomalies caused by the lambliae and is accompanied by numerous photographs illustrating also the radiographical examination of the gall bladder in hyperkinesis, dyskinesis and other pathological states originating in connection with

lambliasis. The pathogenic effect of the lambliae has, in the author's opinion, been fully confirmed.

The chapter on diagnosis contains, in addition to standardly and less standardly used methods such as the intradermal reaction, data on cultivation methods developed on the basis of Karapetyan's original method. Of the chemotherapeutics the author recommends especially atebrin and metronidazol and describes also their application. The conclusive chapter contains notes on the principles of prophylaxis and a very comprehensive bibliography covering 24 pages. In addition to references cited in the text the author added a list of publications which he had not studied himself. The bibliography contains numerous references concerning the work of Czechoslovak parasitologists.

The monograph, and mainly the chapters on clinical aspects, offer a full account of present-day knowledge on lambliasis. All in all, this must be regarded as a very successful monograph, which clinicians, epidemiologists and parasitologists could read with profit. It is unfortunate that no summary in any other foreign language has been added.

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