

**Genov G. A. (Ed.): Diagnostika, lechenie i profilaktika na parazitnite bolesti.
(Diagnostics therapy and prophylaxis of parasitic diseases.) Medicina i fizkultura, Sofia,
249 pp., 1973**

A team of authors, the workers of the Central laboratory for medical parasitology and parasitic diseases in Sofia, under editorship of Associate Professor Genov, compiled topical chapters from medical parasitology. The separate chapters may be roughly divided into three thematic parts.

The first part, compiled by Genov, Georgieva and Peycheva, represents chapters dealing with methods of diagnostics of parasitic diseases. Intravital and postmortal diagnostics, equipment of parasitological laboratory, techniques used in microscopy, cultivation technique, morphology of causative agents of protozoan diseases as well as helminthiases, and quantitative methods are discussed. Modern immunodiagnostic methods, such as agglutination, precipitation, hemagglutination, complement fixation, immunofluorescent technique, Sabin-Feldman dye test on toxoplasmosis and skin allergic tests are presented with great detail. Detailed working processes are described as well. The chapter on sanitary parasitological methods covers helminthological soil investigation, especially the method of Vasilkova-Gefter and Ryazantsev's method, water investigation on the presence of eggs and larvae of helminths and protozoan cysts; examination of meat and meat products, investigation of fishes and crustaceans on the presence of larval stages of helminths.

The second part, compiled by Todorov, is devoted to pharmaco-therapy of parasitic diseases. It is concerned with anthelmintics and antiprotozoan drugs. Of the preparations against nematodes, cestodes and trematodes, older preparations, little used today, such as

santonin, chenopodium oil, phenothiazine, extract from fern and pomegranate bark etc. are listed along with modern anthelmintics, such as pyrvium, thiabendazole, pyrantel, niclosamide, niridazole, bithionol, metriphonate etc. Of the preparations used against protozoan diseases antimalarial, antiamebic drugs, arsen preparations, alkaloids and modern synthetic chemotherapeutics are listed.

The third part, compiled by Radoev and Nenova, is concerned with separate parasitic diseases, divided into: parasitoses of blood, reticuloendothelial, blood and lymphatic systems (malaria, trypanosomiasis, leishmanias, toxoplasmosis, onchocercosis); parasitoses of gastrointestinal system (amebiasis, lambliasis, balantidiosis, enterobiasis, ascariasis, trichuriasis, strongyloidiasis, ancylostomiasis, taeniarhynchosis, taeniasis and hymenolepisis); parasitoses of internal organs and musculature (schistosomiasis, fascioliasis, cysticercosis, trichinosis); parasitoses of urogenital system (trichomiasis, dioctophymosis).

In conclusion Genov compiled control methods of parasitoses, epidemiological classification, general and personal prophylaxis and criteria of the effectiveness of antiparasitic control measures.

The volume prepared by the Bulgarian authors represents an original, informative and modern manual of medical parasitology which is designed primarily for epidemiologists engaged in the clinics of parasitic diseases as well as for theoretical workers engaged in laboratory diagnostics. This manual therefore can be recommended to both the physicians and biologists.

Dr. J. Jira, C.Sc.