



NOVELTIES IN HIV INFECTION AND DISEASE

Lucian Negruțiu

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Professor Lucian Negruțiu, leader of the experts on infection diseases from Timișoara, coordinator of the “Banat Regional Centre for Monitoring HIV Infection” offers us a new editorial **bestseller** which provides the tools for being brought up to speed with the complex and controversial yet hope-rising challenge of HIV infection and AIDS disease.

With the input of two young members of the teaching staff – dr. Ovidiu Roșca and dr. Monica Szilagy – co-authors – and having the benefit of an **Introductory note** written by yet another prominent figure in the world HIV/AIDS, prof. univ. Augustin Cupșa from Craiova, the author configures the book in seven relatively independent chapters, with individual bibliography, followed by an instructive alphabetical **Glossary** referring to field-specific idioms both old and new; this section is of high practical utility to the reader.

From the utter beginning, the authors postulate that, during the 26 years which have passed since the isolation of HIV-1 and HIV-2 viruses, **“the physicians, the antiretroviral therapy and the viral mutants have transformed the infection and the acute disease into one with chronic evolution which is perfectly treatable”**.

The first two chapters are entitled **Novelties in the pathogeny of HIV infection** and respectively Coreceptors CCR5 and CXCR4, the key of HIV-1 pathogeny and transmission. These sections select and sort the infection’s structural and molecular elements, fundamental to the current understanding of the virus-host conflict.

Chapter three addresses a particular issue, being entitled **The care of HIV and viral hepatitis C coinfecting patients**. This chapter sums up the guidelines of 2007 of the **International Committee for HIV-HCV**, norms which are essential to the practitioner.

Chapters four, five and six are dedicated to therapeutic concerns. The titles of the chapters are suggestive of their content: **Novelties in antiretroviral therapy** (ch. 4); **Morpho-metabolic alterings induced by protease inhibitors therapy** (ch. 5); **Current advances in the pharmacogenomics of antiretrovirals** (ch. 6). In these chapters, Prof. Lucian Negruțiu presents not only novelties concerning the numerous newly released molecules – markedly stressing on the “hope forth-bringers” – but also inputs personal contributions regarding the vastly debated concern of cardiovascular risk in antiretroviral therapy.

The last chapter, the seventh, entitled **Clinical syndromes associated to immune reconstitution in HIV infection** encloses a synthesis regarding that which the Western authors define as either IRS or IRD, **Immune reconstitution diseases syndrome**.

Consequently, Prof. Dr. Lucian Negruțiu and his two collaborators have succeeded in creating an “up-to-speed” synthesis, a mandatory read for those dealing with HIV/AIDS care, be it prevention or treatment.

An almost exhaustive bibliography, an explicative iconography, the necessary list of abbreviations and the term glossary amplify the merits of the publication, which also comprises editorial success.

I believe I am not exaggerating by evaluating this book’s release as an “editorial event”.

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