

PARTHA'S
Fundamentals of
PEDIATRICS
(Based on MCI Syllabus)



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and Professor of Pediatrics,
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who cared and loved the children of India
majority of whose parents are still
below the poverty line*

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Foreword

I have great pleasure in writing this foreword for a text book which is being brought out exclusively to fulfill the needs of graduate medical students in Pediatrics in accordance with the MBBS syllabus prescribed by Medical Council of India.

Forty eight years ago, when I learnt pediatrics, from the doyen late Prof ST Achar (who was a general physician turned pediatrician and one of the very few pioneers in Pediatrics in the country, who brought out the first Indian Textbook in Pediatrics) and late Prof V Balagopal Raju, (who made teaching Pediatrics an art rather than a science), I seldom realized that I will one day specialize in Cardiology which discipline today speaks more of “fetal origin of adult disease”. From newborn to adolescent care, pediatrics has grown beyond leaps and bounds.

Today knowing its importance and keeping in mind the vast developments in general Pediatrics and its allied subspecialties the Medical Council of India has recognized it as a separate examination subject and structured a practical and need based syllabus as given in the annexure.

Therefore the need has arisen to bring out a textbook exclusively for undergraduates. The editors and learned contributors who are experts in their respective fields have done a commendable job in simplifying the topics allotted to them and present the text in a need based reader friendly style, which speaks volumes about their rich teaching and training experience.

I am sure this near ‘state of the art’ venture will be welcome by both the students and teachers alike, thus qualifying this text book as a worthy addition to the existing literature meant for imparting fundamental knowledge in Pediatrics to the future doctors, the custodians of child and general health.

I wish all the best for the publisher Shri Jitendar P Vij, Chairman and Managing Director, M/s Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers Pvt Ltd., New Delhi and the editors Prof A Parthasarathy, my good friend and a great academician, President – IAP (1997), Prof PSN Menon, Kuwait, Prof MKC Nair, President – IAP (2004), Prof Swati Y Bhave, President – IAP (2000) all success in their endeavour.

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Preface

The long pending recommendation of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics and the dream of many senior teachers in Pediatrics, became a reality when the Medical Council of India announced the inclusion of Pediatrics as a separate examination subject in the year 1997. The IAP Education Center and the MCI, based on the recommendations of the IAP experts, executed a very concise and need based syllabus.

The need for a concise text book to impart fundamental knowledge of Pediatrics to the graduate medical students was felt and the Indian Academy of Pediatrics brought out a comprehensive text book for the first time titled "*IAP Textbook of Pediatrics*". The academy's venture was warmly welcomed by students, teachers and practitioners alike. However due to its comprehensive nature the contributors could not restrict the text and hence it became voluminous. Several topics which were not part of MCI syllabus were also included. Soon the *IAP Textbook of Pediatrics* became a true desk top companion of post graduates and practitioners. Several reprints were brought out and the III edition has been published in 2006.

A much smaller version became the need of the hour and hence this book at the request of undergraduates. Though we cannot claim a 'state of the art' presentation we have strived our best to include all the topics as delineated by the Medical Council of India and the IAP Education Center in their syllabus and also a few selected topics of practical importance.

It is our fervent hope that this text book will fulfill the fundamental needs of the undergraduates. Your suggestions are most welcome to improve the quality of the contents for future editions.

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