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- Prof JE Jaywardne (Sri Lanka)** : *"A warmly recommended pediatric textbook, focusing exactly on what is needed by our medical students, emerging pediatricians and teachers..."*
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**THE SHORT
TEXTBOOK OF
PEDIATRICS**

THE SHORT TEXTBOOK OF PEDIATRICS

**11th
Edition**
(Fourth Decade of
Publication)

Incorporating National and International Recommendations (MCI, IAP, NNF, WHO, UNICEF, IPA, ISTP, AAP, etc)

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New Delhi • Ahmedabad • Bengaluru • Chennai • Hyderabad • Kochi • Kolkata • Lucknow • Mumbai • Nagpur
• St. Louis (USA)

Published by

Jitendar P Vij

Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers (P) Ltd

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4838/24 Ansari Road, Daryaganj, **New Delhi** - 110002, India, Phone: +91-11-43574357

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The Short Textbook of Pediatrics, 11th Edition

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First Edition : 1977

Second Edition : 1979

Third Edition : 1982

Fourth Edition : 1983

Fifth Edition : 1985

Sixth Edition : 1989

Seventh Edition : 1995

Eighth Edition : 1998

Ninth (Millennium) Edition : 2001

Tenth (Silver Jubilee) Edition: 2004

Eleventh (Fourth Decade of Publication) Edition: **2009**

ISBN 978-81-8448-469-4

Typeset at JPBMP typesetting unit

Printed at Gopsons Papers Ltd., A-14, Sector 60, Noida

*To
The fond memory of my parents
whose inspiration, motivation, blessings
and moral support continue to contribute a great
deal to my academic endeavors
and
everybody striving to contribute to child health
and welfare for a brighter future
globally.*

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Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to write this Foreword to the 11th edition of *The Short Textbook of Pediatrics* edited by Dr Suraj Gupte. He is a recognized pediatric academician, researcher, innovator and educationist of our country and is keenly interested in writing—not only on medical subjects, but also diverse areas, including fiction. He was the recipient of the 1976-Wodehouse Award for his *The Last Summer*. He was the first Indian and the youngest ever to receive this international award.

The Short Textbook of Pediatrics, the first Indian textbook of pediatrics, is written in a simple and fluent language. It gives useful information on the problems of child health in our country and, in brief, a clear concept of the subject. The chapters on growth and development, infant feeding, micronutrient/mineral deficiencies, infections and infestations, immunization, diarrheas, neonatology, immunology and many others are particularly very relevant to our country. The students and teachers of medicine will do well to go through the same carefully. Comprehensiveness is an outstanding feature of this book.

In India, in spite of the country's advances in the field of pediatrics, there is a dearth of well-written textbooks on pediatrics for the use of undergraduates. In recent years, child health has assumed great significance in our country. Today, its importance is being realized more and more by the medical educators, the students and the general public. Of late, the Medical Council of India (MCI) has made "pediatrics" a major and an examination discipline in undergraduate curriculum. It is in the fitness of things that textbooks satisfying the requirements of our country are brought out on the subject. This book, by virtue of its simplicity, flow of language, excellent material and useful statistical data, fulfills this lacuna eminently. At the same time, it is fully in accordance with the syllabus/curriculum recommended by the Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) and finally approved and adopted by the Medical Council of India (MCI).

I am happy that the textbook has been exceedingly well received by the medical professionals, especially the undergraduate medical community of India and other developing countries, ever since it was first published in 1977. Today, it occupies "pride of the place" as a standard textbook in India and several other countries of South-East Asia.

The strategic changes affected in the 10th edition, rendering the book as multiauthor, to meet the requirements of the Medical Council of India (MCI) that had given pediatrics the status of an independent subject at the university level, further enhanced its popularity, acceptability and utility.

I am very confident that the 11th edition of *The Short Textbook of Pediatrics* ("STP" as it is popularly known as) shall be yet more successful and record its significant contribution in improving the standard of pediatric education and child health care in the Indian subcontinent in particular and the developing world in general.

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Preface to the Eleventh Edition

The 11th edition of *The Short Textbook of Pediatrics* appears at a time when pediatrics has well established its status as an independent subject in the undergraduate curriculum with a separate examination at university level in India. Since the last edition eminently succeeded in meeting the needs of the undergraduate students, here we have made further strides to attain the enhanced excellence not only for them but also for the benefit of postgraduates, residents, practitioners and teachers. The goal is to provide a blend of time-honored concepts along with new advances with special emphasis on the needs in the Indian subcontinent.

Each and every chapter stands updated with extensive revisions and/or rewriting, reorganization and additional material, including new chapters and new illustrations in keeping with the changing needs. Naturally, the Index is further expanded. As a result, the new edition is yet more reader-friendly, state-of-the-art and practical-oriented. Yet, the hallmarks of the earlier editions, namely brevity with comprehensiveness, simple and straight-forward style and easy-to-understand expression have been retained and, in fact, further strengthened.

Admittedly, the unique and enhanced value of the 11th edition is very much on account of the expertise, hard work and command in the respective fields of the distinguished contributors. My hats off to them!

Over and above the learned contributors, a multitude of colleagues, friends and readers, in India and abroad, made worthy suggestions for enhancing the utility of the book. Informed assistance from the faculty of the Postgraduate Department of Pediatrics, Narayana Medical College and Hospitals, especially, Dr CM Kumar, is particularly acknowledged. The Chairman, Dr P Narayana, the Adviser, Dr CL Venkata Rao, the Medical Superintendent, Dr JN Rao and Vice-Principal and Coordinator, Dr S Vijay Kumar were gracious enough to provide moral support and motivation in completing this project.

My wife, Shamma, graciously assisted me so much in taking the project to its logical conclusion. So did my daughter, Dr Novy, and son, Er Manu, in spite of their preoccupations.

Prof (Dr) NS Tibrewala, now a legend in the pediatric circles, has once again been gracious enough to write *Foreword* to this edition.

Last but not the least, I wish to thank M/s Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers (P) Ltd and their dedicated staff for the skillfull production qualities of the 11th edition.

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Preface to the First Edition

“Whyn’t a handy pediatric book for our students?”-Requests like this virtually flooded me as I was in the thick of editing the *Newer Horizons in Tropical Pediatrics* last year. Today, I am glad to offer that much-demanded work in the form of *The Short Textbook of Pediatrics*.

The Short Textbook of Pediatrics is aimed at providing a concise, simple and profusely-illustrated digest of the contemporary pediatrics, relevant to the developing world. Common tropical problems, such as nutritional deficiencies, diarrheas, tuberculosis and other frequent infections and parasitic infections and immunization, have received special attention. Certain areas that are important to us but have been ignored by the western authors are, in particular, dealt with. Indian childhood cirrhosis, infantile tremor syndrome, primary bladder stone disease, BCG as a diagnostic tool and tuberculous encephalopathy figure in this list. The accent is on priorities, clinical aspects and latest information rather than on rare conditions and outdated theoretical discussion.

The book is addressed primarily to the medical students, new entrants to the specialty of pediatrics and practising physicians who deal with infants and children as well. Some material especially the statistical data and up to date reference—some as latest as of 1977—are likely to be of value to the seniors either. How far have I succeeded in my endeavors? In this behalf, I would love to have your assessment. That shall help me to make up the deficiencies and introduce the “necessary changes for the better” in the future edition.

The publisher, Mr Jitendar P Vij of M/s Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers (P) Ltd., and the Managing Editor, Rajendra Gupte’s contributions have been vital to the appearance of this manual.

Much of the material included in *The Short Textbook of Pediatrics* is based on articles in the recent WHO/ UNICEF publications, *Indian Journal of Pediatrics*, *Indian Pediatrics*, *Indian Practitioner* and other Indian and foreign periodicals and books. I have punctuated the accounts with our own observations at the prestigious Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, HP Medical College, Shimla, and Govt. Medical College, Jammu. The superb teaching of Prof BNS Walia, Dr (Mrs) Saroj Mehta, Dr ON Bhakoo, Dr SK Mehta, Dr (Mrs) A Perakash and Col ML Magotra has proved to be a source of guidance and stimulation in preparing this book.

Hats off to many of my past and present colleagues, friends and well-wishers for lots of good-will, ideas and cooperation; Dr JC Lall, Dr RK Chaudhary, Dr (Miss) Kalpana Kohli, Dr (Miss) Rita Malhotra, Dr Vinod Seth, Mrs Neelam Virmani, Mr Ayudhia Kaul and Mr GS Malhotra deserve a special mention. Dr Satish Gupte, Dr (Miss) Prem Gupte and Miss Shamma Bakshi extended enthusiastic assistance in preparing the manuscript, proof-reading and indexing.

Major (Mrs) BK Sohi and Lt. Col AS Sohi have been exceedingly courteous in making available a number of excellent clinical photographs. I must also acknowledge the help received from Prof H Shirkey, Dr Roy Brown, Prof Ashfaq Ahmad and Dr VK Dogra.

Prof NS Tibrewala has been kind enough to write the *Foreword* in spite of his preoccupations, especially as President of the forthcoming *15th International Congress of Pediatrics*. He has indeed done me an honor.

Principal NS Pathania, Prof SS Manchanda, Prof PM Udani, Prof RS Dayal and Prof VB Raju figure among our eminent medical men who graciously blessed this project. I should record my appreciation of the fond interest evinced in this manual by Mr KA Padmanabhan, Mr Suraj Saraf and Dr K Chaudhry—all leading journalists.

Finally, I greatly value the favors extended by my folks through various stages of this publication. My kid sister, Veenu and brothers, Subhash and Raji helped me in many a way. They would cheer me up as and when I found the going tough.

To all of them, plus all those who contributed but are not identified here, I am highly grateful.

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Acknowledgments

Special acknowledgements are made to

- Indian Academy of Pediatrics
- National Neonatology Forum
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- UNICEF
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- International Pediatric Association
- International Society of Tropical Pediatrics
for incorporating their recommendations in this volume, and
- Recent Advances in Pediatrics by Prof (Dr) Suraj Gupte
- Annales Nestle
- The Short Textbook of Medical Microbiology by Prof (Dr) Satish Gupte
- The Clinical Recognition of Congenital Heart Disease by Prof (Dr) JK Perloff
- Prof (Dr) K Indira Bai
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- Prof (Dr) GP Mathur
- Dr Novy Gupte
- Cipla Ltd

for providing certain figures.

Every attempt has been made to acknowledge the sources of information at concerned points, in bibliography and/or here. Omission, if any, is unintentional and is regretted.

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