

BOOK REVIEW

The Dangers of Allergic Asthma

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I am very grateful to the Editor of this newly released book entitled “The Dangers of Allergic Asthma” for having invited me to review this first edition. Allergic asthma prevalence has risen dramatically worldwide in the last decades, both in developed and developing countries, and particularly in childhood, conferring substantial patient and society-level burden. It is caused by an impaired immune system, but there are many determinants, including external factors, which influence the susceptibility of a given individual to the development of allergic asthma. As an inflammatory chronic disease, it is mediated by distinct immunological features in which the role of genetic, physiological and environmental factors has been studied extensively. Currently, it is critical to compile and to transmit to clinicians balanced information about what is being investigated, which physio-pathologic pathways have been recently discovered and to address new diagnostic tools and treatment options, and everything under the umbrella of the evidence-based medicine.

Nowadays, the growth of knowledge in science and the speed with which it is produced, makes essential to have reference texts that integrate the theoretical principles to their application’s practical application in clinical practice. Several textbooks on asthma are already in existence but, in my opinion, this one edited by Jesús Miguel García-Menaya, is a truly comprehensive book about allergic asthma. Authors have achieved their initial goal, summarizing in each chapter the new information on every important aspect in this topic and providing a worthy update to allergists and other practitioners interested in asthma. The index offers a global vision of the most relevant aspects of allergic asthma: its pathophysiology; epidemiology; the main allergens involved as inducers of the disease and other elicitors of asthma exacerbations; severe asthma and comorbidities; current available treatments, etc.

I would like to acknowledge the authors for their tremendous effort in writing of the chapters, Dr. García-Menaya for his enormous work to materialize the edition of this book and to the publisher for the quality of the edition. I encourage readers to deepen their reading and enjoy it as much as I have done.

Review provided by Dr. Javier Dominguez Ortega, Allergy Department, La Paz University Hospital, Madrid, Spain