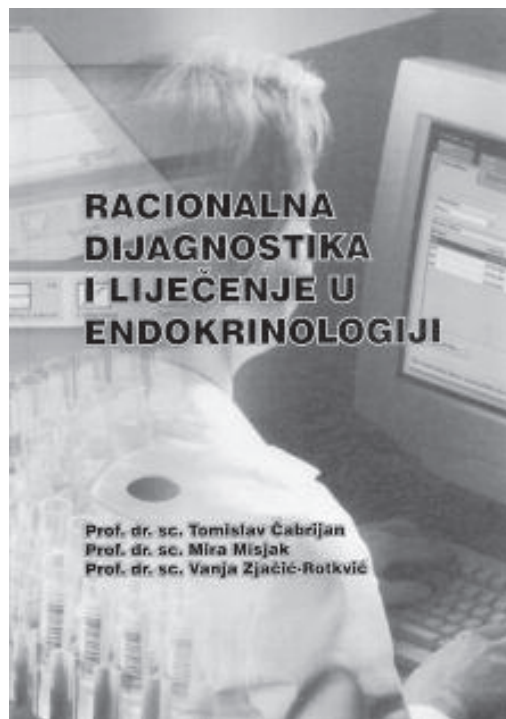


## BOOK REVIEW



*RATIONAL DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY IN ENDOCRINOLOGY*, by Tomislav Čabrijan, Mira Misjak and Vanja Zjačić-Rotkvić, eds. Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences and Division of Endocrinology, Department of Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb, 2000, 117 pages.

The book is based on presentations given at the First International Symposium on Rational Diagnosis and Therapeutic Approach in Endocrinology, organized by the Department of Medicine, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, and Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases, under the auspices of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia, held in Zagreb, November 24, 2000.

Judging from the immense interest of the registered

organizers decided to publish the book of extended abstracts, 19 of them in total, presenting the basic clinical work of some renowned endocrinologists from the four major university hospitals from Zagreb, Croatia. However, the Symposium will also be remembered by an inspiring lecture of Hans J. Seitz, Professor of Medical Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Hamburg University on the subject of obesity and its genetic aspects.

The book deals with all relevant and most common endocrinologic diseases. The readers will find a number of interesting topics related to disorders of the pituitary, thyroid and parathyroid glands, with special reference to osteoporosis. Adrenal glands, glucose and lipid metabolism impairments, and endocrinologic aspects of infertility are also discussed.

Fast achievement of accurate diagnosis is stressed for causing less discomfort and pain (physical and emotional) for the patient, and for allowing for making appropriate and timely therapeutic decisions. Most of the lectures presented and their extended abstracts published in the book provide basic guidelines for the management of most common metabolic disorders.

The book covers another two important topics. It provides a concise survey of highly professional and rational work in laboratory units, and a review of human insulin products, insulin injectors, and devices for blood glucose self-monitoring, considered to be the cornerstone of self-control and self-management of diabetes mellitus.

At the end of the book, an index is added for convenience, along with some very useful diagrams.

It should be noted that the continuous progress of medical sciences with constant development of new diagnostic procedures and imaging techniques calls for singling out most sensitive and cost-effective diagnostic methods. This book meets this requirement quite successfully, and will therefore be a useful help not only to general practitioners but also to residents in internal medicine and all those involved in the field of endocrinology.