
Preface

Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, is the premier medical and research institute in India. This tertiary health-care center, right from its days of inception, has always been at the forefront in the field of medical sciences. The concept of endocrinology in India was originated from this institute, and endocrinology as a super-specialty department was established way back in 1964 at this institute by Professor G.K. Rastogi.

This department has an age-old tradition of grand academic rounds. Detailed discussions pertaining to every aspect of patient's care include right from analysis of symptoms, demonstration and interpretation of signs, critical appraisal of differentials, judicious use of investigations and their appropriate analysis, and finally optimal treatment strategies. This legacy of clinical rounds was inherited from my great teacher, Professor R.J. Dash, who had in-depth and enormous knowledge of the subject with a great ability to critically analyze it. Several thought-provoking questions were spontaneously generated during these interactive sessions, with inputs and suggestions by residents and views and counter-views by the faculty members making these clinical rounds a "sea of knowledge." Further, this continuous process of exchange of knowledge helped us in providing the best possible medical care to our patients and growth of this super-specialty in India.

I had a long-cherished dream to compile these clinical rounds in text form with precise information, comprehensive knowledge, and critical analysis of the facts to facilitate the dissemination of the knowledge to endocrinologists, physicians, pediatricians, and gynecologists.

Recently, there is a paradigm shift in the pattern of the books available in endocrinology with a focus on molecular endocrinology rather than on clinical endocrinology. It was decided to write a book in the "question-answer" format as this pattern not only simulates clinical rounds, but will also help to the health-care professionals in dealing with challenges faced by them in day-to-day practice. Incidentally, books in such format are not readily available, particularly in endocrinology.

The idea of writing this book was conceived, conceptualized, and formatted by me, with utmost caution to present the scientific facts in the most comprehensive manner and was amply supported by my team of coauthors: Dr. Girish Parthan, Dr. Anuradha Aggarwal, and Dr. Yashpal Gogate. Dr. Soham Mukherjee and Dr. Mandeep Singla worked untiringly with me for the last 1 year in reviewing the literature, adding clinical images, tables, and illustrations, and finally editing the

text to make the book in its present shape. Further, the decision of adding the case vignette was strongly propounded by Soham; otherwise, this book would have been incomplete. The whole process in itself was a great learning experience.

This book on pediatric endocrinology includes 12 chapters covering disorders of the pituitary, adrenal, thyroid, parathyroid, gonads, and diabetes. Most chapters begin with a case vignette, followed by a stepwise analysis of the case including diagnosis and management, and subsequently a series of question and answers. Another salient feature of this book is a multitude of clinical images, illustrations, tables, and algorithms for better understanding of the clinical problem.

We hope this endeavor will help health-care professionals to conceptualize the subject of endocrinology and will translate into better patient management.

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