

Book review — Boekresensie

Atlas of small animal dermatology

by L Ackerman

2008. Editorial Inter-Médica S.A.I.C.I., Buenos Aires, Argentina, 520 pp. ISBN 978-950-555-334-1.

The *Atlas of small animal dermatology* by well-known dermatologist Lowell Ackerman is a practical dermatology guide for everyday use in a small animal practice. There are many dermatology textbooks discussing in great depth all the details of pathophysiology, etc., of skin disorders of the small animal. There are also many colour atlases with photos of different skin disorders. There is, however, no practical guide that can be used as a quick reference in a first-opinion practice. This is what this book was intended for. All the major categories of skin disorders are featured in the 1st 7 chapters. The rare conditions are discussed in a miscellaneous skin disorder chapter. Each skin disorder is described; beautiful colour photographs are used to highlight important clinical findings; diagnostic procedures and expected findings are

discussed and illustrated; and finally treatment of each skin disorder is discussed. Sufficient detail and information are given for use in general practice. For those interested in more detail on especially pathophysiology, histopathology and pharmacodynamics, an appendix with recommended reading has been supplied.

In addition, there are 3 appendices. Appendix 1 is an appendix on lesions and a pattern approach to the diagnosis of skin disorders. Differential diagnoses for all the different lesion types and patterns are given. This is practical and easy to follow. Appendix 2 deals with in-hospital diagnostic testing. Various diagnostic procedures performed daily on skin cases in practice are described. Colour photographs illustrating each procedure as well as possible findings are given. Appendix 3

discusses the various dermatological therapies in detail. The latest therapies are discussed as well.

This is a very useful and practical dermatology guide. It fulfils the purpose for which it was intended, namely to be a practical guide providing a condensed version of the most important clinical information relevant to dermatology of dogs and cats, with the inclusion of clinical images in a quick reference format. It is intended for both veterinary practitioners and students of veterinary medicine.

This book is highly recommended to every practitioner in small animal practice.

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