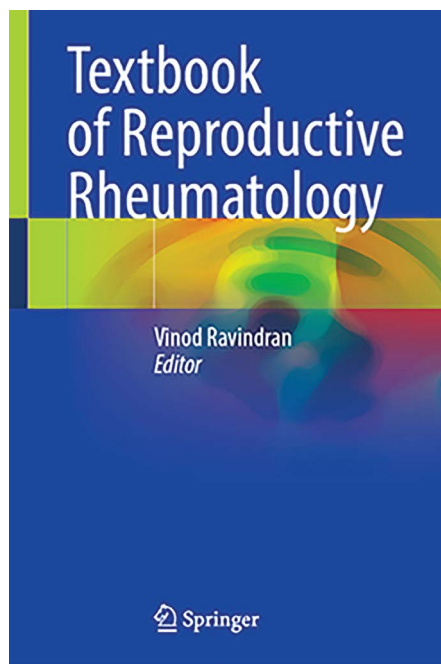


Textbook of Reproductive Rheumatology

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Reproductive rheumatology has emerged as a vital subspecialty that bridges rheumatology, obstetrics and gynecology, reproductive medicine, and neonatology. A majority of autoimmune rheumatic diseases are more common in women, and cultural and societal pressure to plan for a family further underscores the importance of this topic. With advances in understanding and treating autoimmune rheumatic diseases, an increasing number of women and men with these conditions can pursue parenthood successfully. However, optimizing reproductive outcomes requires careful preconception counseling, appropriate disease control, judicious medication selection, and coordinated multidisciplinary care throughout pregnancy, delivery, and the postpartum period. Hence, all relevant specialists must be aware of the essentials and ensure consistent management to counsel patients appropriately.

A textbook on reproductive rheumatology has been a long-felt

need. This textbook provides detailed 360° coverage of this subject, making it collectible for all clinicians managing autoimmune rheumatic diseases. This textbook has 21 well-thought-out chapters written by relevant experts from around the world. These chapters stand out for their take-home messages for readers.

The chapters have been arranged in a narrative order, covering various aspects of reproductive rheumatology. The first four chapters set the tone for the book by addressing the basics and common topics such as immunological changes during pregnancy, fertility and sexual dysfunction, contraception, and assisted reproductive techniques. The next chapter focuses on prepregnancy counseling, one of the most important topics in clinical practice, covering everything from A to Z, including diseases and medications, vaccinations, and mental health. The next five chapters address pregnancy and individual rheumatic diseases, examining the impact of disease on pregnancy and vice versa, and touching on other relevant aspects such as postnatal care and the differentiation of disease-specific features from pregnancy-related complications. The next two chapters cover two clinically relevant and must-know topics: anti-Ro and La antibodies in pregnancy and the safety of antirheumatic drugs in pregnancy and lactation.

This is followed by obstetric topics such as maternal and obstetric complications, fetal surveillance, and postpartum management. The next three topics are less discussed but no less important: reproductive health in men, long-term outcomes of offspring born to mothers with autoimmune rheumatic diseases (AIRDs), and menopause and hormone replacement therapy. The textbook ends with current developments and challenges in this area, including barriers to providing appropriate care, maintaining registries, and a peek into digital health relevant to reproductive rheumatology, with a focus on core digital tools and artificial intelligence.

The textbook makes for very engaging reading and, particularly, the chapters on contraception, assisted reproduction techniques, and anti-Ro and anti-La antibodies in pregnancy stand out. The textbook is tightly edited, with chapters presenting only relevant and up-to-date text for all practicing clinicians. The 69 tables and 47 colorful, well-thought-out pictorial representations make the content more impactful and help in appreciating the key information quickly. The content is based on current evidence, which has been properly referenced, and strikes a balance between depth and accessibility, making it suitable for all stakeholders. Overall, one can breeze through this masterpiece while gaining the necessary knowledge for daily practice.

Future editions of this textbook could perhaps include a chapter on recurrent pregnancy loss, as its evaluation and treatment options are highly relevant to clinical practice. Another challenging clinical aspect is the transmission of queries related to rheumatic diseases to the next generation; hence, a separate chapter on genetic counseling would be very welcome.

This comprehensive textbook of reproductive rheumatology is invaluable for clinicians navigating these complex yet rewarding aspects of patient care. This book provides a timely, evidence-based, and practical guide that integrates current scientific knowledge with real-world clinical experience, making it an essential reference for rheumatologists, obstetricians, physicians, trainees, and all healthcare professionals involved in caring for patients with rheumatic diseases throughout their reproductive journey.

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