

BOOK REVIEW

Genetics of diabetes: the truth unveiled

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In the recent years, the number of the articles published on the theme of genetic basis and related complication increased and many progresses has been done. In public research databases, in this moment is an abundance of data about the genetics of different types of diabetes and related complication, but there are only few comprehensive up to date reviews of evidences.

The book **Genetics of diabetes: the truth unveiled**, published in 2010, is written under the coordination of Prof. Dan Mircea Cheță, a well known book coordinator, which publishes for more than 25 years in Romanian and international publishing houses. This book is also published in collaboration between Romanian Academy Publishing House, Bucharest and Karger AG, Basel being distributed worldwide. The book has Romanian authors and well known international collaborators.

In this atmosphere of increasing amount of information, this book offers in five chapters a comprehensive review about the genetic background of all types of diabetes, related complications and co-morbidities.

The first chapter is an extraordinary well-written introduction in genetic bases of the diseases and genetic research methodologies. In only 30 pages, the author, Prof. Grigorescu, succeeds in reviewing in a very concise synthesis all the important data about genetic knowledge the reader has to have in order to digest the book. In the same time, the first chapter is a review of the progresses made in the recent years in genetic research methodologies.

The second chapter is a very well written synopsis of experimental evidences and hypothesis implicated in type 1 diabetes pathogenesis and also of genetics of type 1 diabetes describing the genes identified by candidate gene approach or by genome wide scan, being a very interesting connection between pathogenesis and genetics.

In the third chapter, the author describes the environmental and genetic factors implicated in type 2 diabetes. The genetic factors are very well systematized in genes connected with insulin resistance, insulin secretion and gene not very well functionally described. In the same time, the monogenic forms of diabetes are reviewed. With more than 300 references, this chapter, like all the others, is a rich and valuable, up to date, bibliographical material.

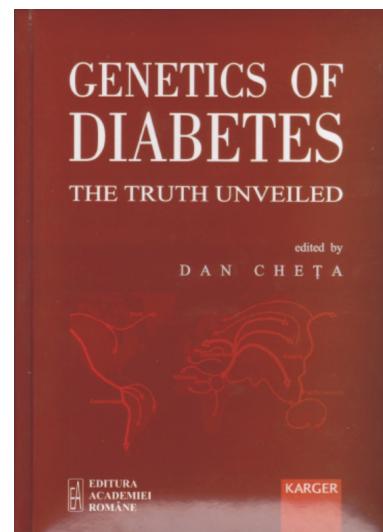
Chapter 4 is written by a completely Romanian team. This chapter reviews the main mechanisms of diabetic complications and their genetic basis. With more than 150 pages and almost 900 references, this is one of the most comprehensive and evidence based reviews of this field.

The last chapter is describing the genetic bases of diabetic co-morbidities (obesity, hypertension, metabolic syndrome). Even if it has only 20 pages, it is a successful summary of the most important evidences regarding genetics of these diseases.

After a tree years of enormous effort, this book provides a well written, up to date documented, pedagogic synthesized, material reviewing the huge literature material about this topic.

In the end, we would like to tell you what Jørn Nerup says in the preface: "The book will be of interest and help for the clinician looking for an easy to read overview of the field. It will be a landmark of reference for the new and experienced researchers for its detail and comprehensiveness. And for the academic lecturer it can serve as a rich source of useful teaching material".

We think this is a book which is mandatory for the documentation of all the diabetologists and geneticists, which are studying this field.



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