

Djelmiš J, Desoye G, Ivanišević M (volume editors): Diabetology of Pregnancy, as a Part of Porta M, Matschinsky FM (series editors): Frontiers in Diabetes. Basel: Karger; 2005. 327 pages; ISBN 380557925X; price: US\$ 149.25

Field of medicine: Obstetrics and gynecology

Format: Hardback

Audience: Obstetricians and gynecologists, trainees in obstetrics and gynecology, as well as all clinicians and scientists interested in diabetes, particularly diabetes related to pregnancy.

Purpose: To provide a comprehensive but concise overview of the scientific and clinical characteristics of gestational diabetes as well as of type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus in pregnancy.

Content: This book consists of 25 chapters, Author index, Subject index, 50 figures, and 22 tables. The book represents a comprehensive guide to all important subjects related to the diabetes in pregnancy. Starting from "Epidemiology of pre-gestational and gestational diabetes," the editors listed an impressive series of chapters related to clinical practice but also to basic research, including a comprehensive explanation of pathophysiology of the disease. This is summarized in the chapters on "Endocrine changes in diabetic pregnancy" and "Metabolic changes in diabetic pregnancy," which can be of use to all those involved in clinical obstetrics and gynecology. The list of the chapters continues with the "Leptin in the diabetic pregnancy," where the function of leptin in the mother as well as in the fetus is described, explaining the role of leptin in diabetes. Separately, several chapters deal with placental problems in diabetic pregnancy, including vasculogenesis and angiogenesis, as well as morphological findings in infant and placenta of diabetic mother. "Principles and evidence based medicine" and the clinical part "Clinical management of preg-

nancies complicated with type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus" are of particular importance to all involved in the management of pregnancies of diabetic mother. In this part of the book, several chapters are dealing with the fetal surveillance in the diabetic mother ("Fetal hypoxia and its monitoring in pre gestational diabetic pregnancies," "Ultrasonic surveillance of the diabetic fetus," "Management of delivery") and finally "Offspring of diabetic pregnancy," and "Long term consequences of gestational diabetes mellitus."

Highlights: The clinical part of the book is well written, concise and should be used as a guideline or even protocol in clinical management of the pregnancies of diabetic mother. It should be included in all policies of management of pregnancy complicated either by pre existing or gestational diabetes.

Limitations: It is hard to find a limitation of such a well designed and organized book. However, it would be much easier for the readers if a summary was provided at the end of each chapter. However, this does not influence the value of the book in general.

Related reading: This book is a part of the series Frontiers in Diabetes, and the topic is well described and covered in most general textbooks of Obstetrics and gynecology. Medical Management of Pregnancy Complicated by Diabetes, "Third edition, by the American Diabetes Association is also highly recommended reading for the same subject.

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