Rapidly increasing information in medical science requires that text books be revised and updated to keep pace. The authors, Dr. D.R. Arora and B. Arora, have revised their text book in keeping with the times. Improvement from the first edition is worth noting. The authors have revised almost all chapters and yet have not made the book unwieldy or bulky with additional information. The hard bound book comes with an attractive jacket. The first chapter on General Parasitology has an interesting table comparing a parasite with a human embryo. Subsequent chapters have retained the general pattern of the previous edition but improved with colour highlights of salient features and important information. The black and white and coloured diagrams are uncomplicated and clear, as also the pictures of gross and histopathological sections. Diagrams of lifecycles have been improved with simple line sketches. Number of references at the end of each chapter have however been reduced, perhaps to bring down the bulk of the book. The language remains lucid and easy to understand. Rapid diagnostic tests have been included in many chapters, one example being antigen detection and quantitative buffy coat examination in malaria, illustrated with diagrams for easy comprehension. Nosocomial parasitic infections is an additional feature of the chapter on parasitic opportunistic infections. This is a relevant addition in view of the growing importance of hospital acquired infections. Diagrammatic representation of relative sizes and morphology of protozoa and helminthic eggs, added on at the end of the book has good visual impact and will help in the understanding the importance of micrometry in diagnostic parasitology.

Applied and analytical approach to solving clinical problems could have been introduced along with multiple choice and essay questions, by including problem based questions. An attempt has been made with a few questions but it needs to be improved. This edition may well replace the older one as a text book for MBBS, and Laboratory Technology students and may be recommended for the same. It will also help post graduate students of Medical Microbiology, as additional Indian data have been included in some of the chapters. Authors need to be congratulated on the second edition of their book on Medical Parasitology.

Reba Kanungo
Department of Clinical Microbiology
Pondicherry Institute of Medical Sciences
Pondicherry - 605 006, India.
email: <rebakanungo2001@hotmail.com>
Emphasis upon medical parasitology in North American medical curricula has traditionally been woefully lacking and continues to be increasingly neglected. Consequently, the actual and potential impact of these diseases is not being addressed, and younger clinicians have little appreciation for the hazard they represent. This lack of awareness results in few, if any, diagnostic tests being ordered. This, in turn, produces a cyclical effect wherein there is a corresponding reduction in the medical technology curricula dealing with diagnostic laboratory tests designed to identify parasitic diseases. Medical parasitology studies peculiarities of structure and life cycles of parasites, interrelations in the system parasite-host as well as the methods of diagnostics, treatment and prevention of parasitic diseases. The forms of parasitizing are extremely diverse and it is possible to classify them according to different principles. Medical Parasitology is the study of organisms which parasitize humans. Classification of parasites. According to the nature of relations between a parasite and his host there can be