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Nutrition and growth: Yearbook 2014, B. Koletzko, R. Shamir, D. Turck, M. Phillip, editors (Karger, Basel, Switzerland) 2014. 120 pages. Price: US\$ 174.00/CHF 148.00/EUR 138.00
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This book is a collection of abstracts of articles on selected topics pertaining to nutrition and growth which are published along with the comments of the experts on these articles. The abstracts are grouped under six chapters namely, "Obesity, Metabolic Syndrome and Nutrition", "Neonatal and Infant Nutrition, Breastfeeding", "Cognition", "Nutrition and Growth in Chronic Diseases", "Malnutrition and

Catch-up Growth during Childhood and Puberty” and “Pregnancy: Impact of Maternal Nutrition on Intrauterine Fetal Growth”.

Each chapter consists of a brief write up providing information on the importance and relevance of the respective topic. This is followed by the title and abstract of the article and a brief comment from an expert on the strengths, limitations and applications of the article.

There has been a rapid increase in the number of publications on nutrition and growth partly because of the emergence of dual nutrition burden and partly because of improved technologies for investigating growth and development. Professionals from diverse specialities such as paediatrics, epidemiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, nutrition, dietetics and general medicine publish research studies on nutrition, growth and development, each having their own priorities and perspectives. Accessing these publications, learning the emerging concepts and other relevant information from different specialist groups on nutrition, growth and development is a challenge even for those research scientists having access to research publication databases. Access to these diverse publications is a prerequisite for promoting exchange of knowledge and information between different groups. Building productive intersectoral collaborations may pay rich dividends and hasten the process of understanding the complex processes of nutrition, growth and development, mechanisms by which different factors act,

interactions between multiple factors that affect growth, and evolving interventions for improving nutritional status and promoting growth. This effort will also help the postgraduates to update their knowledge on these topics within a short time.

The ultimate aim of all these publications is to update the knowledge and understanding of not only clinicians but also nursing personnel and other health professionals involved in the care of children, regarding the newer concepts in these areas and how in light of these, current practices aimed to improve health and nutrition care of the children can be modified. However, practicing professionals lack both the time and access to numerous publications in which articles pertaining to nutrition, growth and development are published. They also may not have the time to access many journals and may not have the experience and expertise to sift among the articles, and utilize the knowledge gained in improving service delivery.

This book enables all the groups to go through the abstracts and comments within a relatively short time; they can then pick up the abstract that is of interest and access the full article. Thus from the users' perspective this is a welcome move.

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