

MANUAL OF
CLINICAL
MICROBIOLOGY
FIFTH EDITION

ALBERT BALOWS
WILLIAM J. HAUSLER, JR.
KENNETH L. HERRMANN
HENRY D. ISENBERG
H. JEAN SHADOMY

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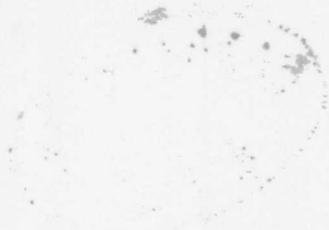
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Preface

In the past two decades we have witnessed a remarkable growth in the breadth and depth of clinical microbiology. Documentation of the increasing scope of technological advances during the past 20 years is evidenced in the first four editions of the *Manual of Clinical Microbiology* (MCM). This edition, MCM5, proudly joins its predecessors in documenting currently accepted practices in clinical microbiology as we enter the last decade of the 20th century. The excitement and challenges associated with MCM5 were evident from the beginning and have resulted in a remarkable collaborative effort among editors, authors, and the publisher. The result is a totally revised version that we hope retains a mark of distinction, as did the earlier editions.

The first edition of MCM, published in 1970 with 76 chapters in 727 pages, set the pace and was warmly welcomed by clinical microbiologists, infectious disease specialists, pathologists, medical technologists, clinicians, and students and their teachers as a useful and practical source of information on the detection, isolation, and identification of virtually all important agents of infectious diseases. MCM5, published 21 years later, has 122 chapters in approximately 1,400 pages and documents the dynamic changes that have occurred in all aspects of clinical microbiology.

Innovation is evident throughout MCM5. The number of volume and section editors was increased to accommodate the growth in size and scope. In the early planning stages of this edition, the decision was made to retain the flavor and style of previous editions and to involve and indoctrinate as many young scientists as possible to serve as editorial board members and chapter authors. As a result, at least 107 individuals served as first-time editors and authors for MCM5. The total effort of editors, authors, and an energetic ASM publications staff has resulted in a revised edition that we believe will be user friendly and helpful.

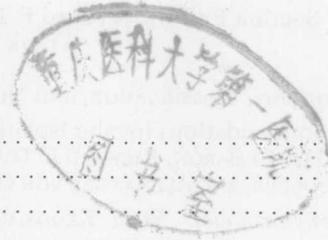
We express our thanks to the many secretaries who diligently produced the drafts and ultimately the final version of each chapter. Similarly, we thank the unsung support staff who did so many different but necessary tasks that contributed to the published manuscript and the successful book. We are appreciative of the efforts of the editorial board, who recruited authors, pressed them to adhere to schedules, and reviewed drafts and final versions of chapters until each chapter was at its scientific prime. Special thanks are due to the staff of the ASM Publications Department, who did everything and anything to assist the editors, editorial board, authors, and others connected with MCM5 in bringing it to fruition. We especially wish to recognize Kirk Jensen, Dennis Burke, and Susan Birch at ASM Publications, who worked patiently with editors and authors to resolve problems as they surfaced and to ensure timely publication.

We also wish to express our appreciation to Helen Whiteley, who was chairman of the ASM Publications Board when MCM5 was embryonic. The wisdom of her leadership and her dedication to ASM publications were of benefit to us. In a different vein, we also acknowledge and express our gratitude for the exemplary contributions of Edwin H. Lennette, whose imprimatur is evident in each of the first four editions of MCM and who set the tone for MCM5.

Finally, and with equal, if not greater, appreciation, we are grateful to the dedicated authors who tolerated the push for producing manuscripts that conformed to style, format, and design. They gave of their time, wisdom, and knowledge to make MCM5 the success that we believe it will be.

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