

Book Reviews

Oxford Handbook of Nutrition & Dietetics

*Edited by Joan Webster-Gandy, Angela Madden and Michelle Holdsworth
Published by Oxford University Press, 2006
ISBN: 0-19-856725-7 (flexicover)*

There are many Oxford Handbooks for Clinicians, but one in the field of Clinical Nutrition has been a long while coming. The present book has small dimensions, but 730 pages worthy of a place in the clinician's library of practical information. It enunciates the principles and contemporary science on which clinical (and, in large measure, public health) nutrition should be based. It is systematic and comprehensive for nutrients, some bio-active food components, their food sources, dietary reference values and food labelling, with useful and relevant information about diagnostic nutrition and nutrition intervention and support. Clinical situations and disease states in which nutrition is relevant are succinctly and systematically presented. In regard to diabetes, the glycaemic index is introduced briefly, but the appendices to do with food composition persist with a "carbohydrate exchange" table for foods containing 10g carbohydrate – without regard to impact on blood glucose or insulin response. This points to the limitations of a handbook like this, which can encourage prescriptive, disconnected and even irrelevant approaches to health care. However, ultimately, no hand-book can stand alone from a discussive and critical environment for clinical decision-making.

The broader socio-economic and cultural dimensions of clinical nutrition are sometimes lost, but, to its credit, this handbook addresses nutritional needs, methods and intervention in various settings including poverty, if not in development.

The handbook has a definite national context, that of Britain, which limits its use in other health care systems.

By Mark L Wahlqvist

Future Events

January 31-February 2, 2007
*CIES International Food Safety Conference 2007,
Munich, Germany*
www.ciesfoodsafety.com/

February 9-10, 2007
*4th Asia-Oceania Conference on Obesity will be held in
Seoul, Korea*
www.obesity2007.org/info.asp

March 7-9, 2007
*7th International Soy Symposium: Role of Soy in
Health and Disease Prevention, Bangkok, Thailand*
www.soyconferencebangkok2007.com

April 4-6, 2007
*Global Scientific Challenges: Perspectives from Young
Scientist. An international conference celebrating 75
years of ICSU, Lindau, Germany*
www.icsu.org/10_icsu75/75ANNIV_Young.html

April 22-25, 2007
*15th European Conference on Obesity, Budapest,
Hungary*
www.eco2007@easobesity.org

April 25-26, 2007
*3rd International Conference on Traditional
Mediterranean Diet - MEDIET 2007, Athens, Greece*
mediet@heliotopos.net

April 25-28, 2007
*2nd International Congress on "Prediabetes" and the
Metabolic Syndrome, Barcelona, Spain*
www.kenes.com/prediabetes

May 7-9, 2007
*1st Federations of African Nutrition Societies
FANUS meeting in Quazazate, Morocco*
www.africanutrition.org

May 29-June 1, 2007
*34th Annual International Conference on Global
Health, DC, USA*
www.globalhealth.org/conference

July 10-13, 2007
*FENS-IUNS Congress: 10th European Nutrition
Conference, Paris, France*
www.fens2007.org

September 9-13, 2007
*FANS-IUNS Congress: 10th Asian Congress of
Nutrition, Taipei, Taiwan*
www.2007acn.org.tw

November 6-10, 2007
*5th International Congress on Developmental Origins
of Health & Disease, Perth, Western Australia*
www.dohad2007.org

September 27-30, 2009
*World Congress on Oils and Fats & 28th ISF Congress,
Sydney, Australia*
www.isfsydney2009.com

October 4-9, 2009
*19th International Congress of Nutrition 2009,
Bangkok, Thailand*
www.icn2009.com

