Textbook of Diagnostic Microbiology Slide Set

Edited by CONNIE R. MAHON and G. MANUSELIS. 1995.
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Pp. 35. £364.00.

High quality slides of diagnostic microbiology are difficult to find, making this large slide collection (over 600) extremely worthwhile. The slides are taken from illustrations and photographs in the textbook of the same name. The collection is extremely varied, ranging from slides of various stains, biochemical pathways, susceptibility testing, fermentation reactions to slides of biohazard containers and labels; there is also a limited number of slides of infectious diseases. The sections on parasitology (80 slides) and mycology (43 slides) are particularly comprehensive. Rather surprising is a large

section of slides of sputum and bronchoalveolar lavage fluid microscopy; these are somewhat repetitive.

An accompanying booklet lists the slides chapter by chapter. Many slides are merely titled, but others receive up to a paragraph of explanatory text. The quality of slides is generally excellent, particularly those of colonial morphology. Although not comprehensive, this slide collection represents an excellent source of material for lectures to medical students, microbiology science students and trainee MLSOs in microbiology. It is probably too expensive for individual purchase but would be a worthwhile acquisition by departments involved in teaching diagnostic microbiology.

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