Synopsis
Understand all the essential concepts in immunology with Basic Immunology: Functions and Disorders of the Immune System! This concise, focused text provides you with an up-to-date, accessible introduction to the workings of the human immune system. Efficiently master the immunology information you need through clinically focused content, logically organized by mechanism. Apply what you’ve learned to real-world situations by referencing the appendix of clinical cases. Enhance your learning with the help of numerous full-color illustrations and useful tables, as well as summary boxes, review questions, and a glossary of immunology terms. Study immunology anywhere! Online access to www.StudentConsult.com opens the door to an enhanced e-book and ancillary components! Visualize complex immunology concepts with a completely updated art program. Test your knowledge. New PowerPoint Review slides added to www.StudentConsult.com are ideal for study sessions.

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Customer Reviews
This is a favorite book of many medical students. Unlike most immunology textbooks, Basic Immunology has been written for its target audience, medical students. The authors do not target undergraduates or graduate students as they have another text for those groups. The writing is clear and the figures well planned. The book is a reasonable length (Very helpful text, with many clear and concise diagrams. I thought it provided pretty clear coverage
of the material we needed to know as a first year medical student. Helps that the guy who wrote it was my teacher.

The book is organized well and would seem to offer a great explanation of immunology, other than the fact that the author’s writing style is very wordy and kind of weird in my opinion. I don’t really understand sentences fully the first time I read them, and not because of the content but because of how it is written. I think it’s a very passive and wordy writing style. That’s just my opinion though. It seem to be a great book, but I don’t like his sentence structure and word order. I’ll give an example: On page 13, the author gives an overview on how antigens are presented to T cells and B cells. In the first few sentences, he says that specialized cells present antigens to T cells. In the next few, he addresses how antigens are presented to B cells like this: "Less is known about cells that may capture antigens for display to B lymphocytes. B lymphocytes may directly recognize the antigens of microbes (either released or on the surface of the microbes), or macrophages lining the lymphatic channels may capture antigens and display them to B cells." The use of the word ‘may’ makes it seem like it is not understood how antigens are presented to B cells, and they may do this or they may do that, we don’t know. But you later find out that they do both (at least as far as I know), and the author probably should have used the word ‘can,’ as in they can do this or they can do that, but we don’t know a lot about it. I’d suggest reading a little bit of the book in the preview to see if you like it. If you do like the writing style, the book is great. Everything is laid out well and its all good information with great explanations without any fluff. Edit: I’ve read more of the book now, and I like it a lot more. I don’t run into problems with his writing style anymore. I don’t know if it changed throughout the first couple chapter, or I got used to it, or it was just me in the first chapter. One thing I have noticed is that the author seems to do a really good job about introducing material. Every time I start reading about a new idea, I have seen it before earlier in the book. He does this in a really seamless and fluid manner, and it is really helpful. It is really easy to understand new topics as he talks about them. I changed my rating from 3/5 to 5/5.

I have been struggling to find a source that is comprehensive enough to prepare me for USMLE while not overwhelming me with information, and I am happy to say that this book is just the right one. Dr. Abbas does a great job of presenting the information in a way that is understandable while making sure that the level of content is appropriate for a medical student. If you are a graduate student in immunology this book would be too basic, but for medical students with little background in the subject, it works really well.
This book is a good compromise in the sense that it has enough content to prepare students well for medical school but does not overwhelm them with detail. It is a great package together with Abbas’s bigger Immunology book - use this for undergrad studies and then move to the bigger "Cellular and molecular immunology" for grad studies. The only reason I give it only 4 stars is that it is not as easy to read as the Kuby or Janeway. The Abbas tends to mention complex subjects that have not been explained, and then throws in a short definition of these. This makes it more difficult to read, but it is also more concise than the Kuby and Janeway. I don’t think this is a problem, but I can see that my students might find that difficult.

Arrived quickly, in good shape. Another fantastic addition to my collegiate textbook collection. Due to how little I would eventually get back if I wanted to sell it again, I will move this textbook several times while collecting dust until I use it as kindling some day.

Basic Immunology is the best book to get to know what immunology is about. My PI suggests this book and Janeway to me together, for Basic immunology, it covers almost every important part of the immunology, with well-drew pictures to depict the lecture part and is really interesting to read.

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