

BOOK REVIEWS

***Laser Treatment of Vascular Lesions* by Bard S., Goldberg D.J. 148 pages. 44 colour fig., 8 tables. ISBN: 978-3-318-02312-1. Price. S. Karger AG, 2014**

Doctor David J. Goldberg, a dermatologist and a lawyer and co-author of this book is one of the laser pioneers who started laser treatment in the late 1980s. He has since then published numerous articles and books about laser. Dr Goldberg is also a frequent speaker both nationally and internationally. This book co-written with Doctor Susan Bard and others is an excellent overview of laser and intense pulsed light (IPL) treatment of vascular lesions. Renowned specialists in laser medicine have lent their experience. This book allows readers to broaden their knowledge and further hone their skills in the laser and IPL treatment of lesions of both traditionally and non-traditionally indications. The book covers also controversial issues, e.g. laser of superficial haemangiomas in combination with topical or systemic steroids. It also includes new, controversial non-vascular treatment indications, such as onychomycosis, the psoriatic nail bed, basal cell carcinomas and deeper vascular lesions like venous malformation. The reader can choose a chapter that covers their own machine or the machine they are interested in buying and then they can go into parameters and suggestions of indications. Complications, pit-falls and pearls are easy to pick up in the book. The only negative comment I can think of is that the authors constantly point out that pulsed dye laser is the treatment of choice for many indications, but nowadays this is not the case, as many patients prefer non-purpura treatments and therefore IPL and YAG laser in skilled hands may often be a better alternative (or the combinations of different wavelengths).

The authors point out the importance of recognising that laser medicine is as much an art as it is a science and that the results are very operator-dependent.

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