

POWERFUL REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction:

Infectious diseases have always played a major role in defining the daily lives of human beings for generations. Human and animal populations have been devastated by outbreaks of various epidemics and infectious diseases. During the Biblical era, Egypt experienced ten (10) plagues, in addition to being exposed to several communicable (infectious) diseases. Empires have risen and fallen because of events related to contagious and/or communicable diseases. Some cultures have even attributed the prevalence of communicable diseases to acts of witch-craft, while others simply regarded them as punitive acts from the 'gods'. During the past century, the scientific world has greatly contributed new insights about diseases from research findings that have resulted in an understanding of the various microbial agents that affect human/animal populations and their environments. With this knowledge, the world has experienced periods of extreme optimism regarding the capabilities of controlling and even eliminating or conquering various pestilences affecting human and animal health.

“Communicable Diseases for School and Community Health Promotion”, authored by Dr. Martin A. Ayim, focuses on both school and community settings, and is intended to provide health education students and professionals, especially health educators and epidemiologists, with information needed to empower them to educate people about the transmission, investigation, and control of various infectious diseases. The author's approach in describing the transmission of communicable diseases is intended to enhance the comprehension of new concepts by non-health professionals and also to serve as a quick reference (material) for students enrolled in a kinesiology (health education) courses. The book is highly recommended for use by medical doctors who are engaged in diagnosing and treating patients with various forms of communicable diseases.

Contents of the Book:

The book is well organized with each chapter containing review questions and topics for discussion. The author further provides a clear definition of health terminologies, including a great illustration depicting the triad of health promotion (**Section 1**).

Section 2 discusses vital statistics, rates, ratios, and throws more light onto the concepts of morbidity and mortality rates, including world-wide ratios for comparison purposes. Included in this section are several formulae for calculating various data, designed to facilitate the comprehension of new concepts, even by lay persons.

Section 3 focuses on the principles and practices of immunization, and defines terminologies (with vivid explanations) regarding their relationships to infectious diseases. The author underscores the importance of parental involvement and responsibilities towards immunization of their children, and asserts that parents be educated about childhood diseases and vaccines, because they have to live with, and are responsible for the consequences of any uninformed decision affecting their children's health.

Chapter 15 discusses some bacterial diseases transmitted through infection between animals and humans, or through vectors, such as mosquitoes, fleas, etc. Fascioliasis, discussed on page 357, is a liver disease caused by a parasite from sheep, cattle and related animals. Other diseases such as Meningitis, Anthrax, etc. are discussed, including captivating visuals that clearly illustrate them in order to facilitate a thorough understanding of the concepts being expounded upon.

Malaria is a disease that is devastating many tropical countries and urgently needs the immediate attention of health (professional) researchers. Malaria is a parasitic infection caused by four species of plasmodium, each with its own pathology and epidemiology. It is discouraging to note that, with all research already conducted on malaria, no permanent cure has yet been found. This has resulted in millions of human beings languishing in abject misery in tropical countries. Even if successes have been registered in Small and Chicken Pox, the elimination of malaria is yet to be accomplished. The author provides information for health researchers and philanthropists to use in order enable them reinforce their efforts to work relentlessly to end malaria - the devastating tropical disease.

Towards the end of the book, the author provides very informative appendices, including a special appendix on the subject matter covered in the book. This will facilitate the search of specific content and/or information contained in the book.

From a pedagogic point of view, the book contains valuable information needed by health educators and/or professionals. As a textbook (if adopted), students will greatly benefit by using it for courses in infectious diseases, epidemiology and communicable diseases at undergraduate or graduate levels in colleges. Schools of Public Health, Schools of Nursing, Departments of Health Education and Health Promotion, Schools of Community Health, Health Science Centers, and Schools of Tropical Medicine will benefit immensely from this book. Readers would find the book very useful in making quick and easy references, revision of health terminologies, understanding concepts, and descriptions of various communicable diseases. The book provides 'easy reading' by non-health students and non-health professionals who may want to educate themselves about the over 132 communicable diseases discussed in the book. Therefore, it is highly acclaimed and recommended for Colleges and Universities by health education and/or health promotion professionals because of its metacognitive approach.

Dr. Christopher Atang

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"This book is rich in content and the author has done an outstanding job in organizing and explaining the concepts. This book is certainly needed and will make a significant contribution to health education profession. It also has strong potential for cross-cultural and international use and possible translation into other languages".

Mohammad R. Torabi, Ph.D., MPH, CHES

Department of Applied Health Sciences
Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

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"From a pedagogic point of view, the book contains valuable information needed by health educators and/or professionals. As a textbook (if adopted), students will greatly benefit by using it for courses in infectious diseases, epidemiology and communicable diseases at undergraduate or graduate levels in colleges. Schools of Public Health, Schools of Nursing, Departments of Health Education and Health Promotion, Schools of Community Health, Health Science Centers, and Schools of Tropical Medicine will benefit immensely from this book. Readers would find the book very useful in making quick and easy references, revision of health terminologies, understanding concepts, and descriptions of various communicable diseases. The book provides 'easy reading' by non-health students and non-health professionals who may want to educate themselves about the over 132 communicable diseases discussed in the book. Therefore, it is highly acclaimed and recommended

for Colleges and Universities by health education and/or health promotion professionals because of its metacognitive approach”.

Dr. Christopher Atang.

Professor of Education, Houston Community College, Texas

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“Students and faculty will benefit immediately from Dr. Ayim's book and will be grateful for his contribution to their education. The book is laid out to enhance progressive understanding of terms and concepts, making it excellent resource for introductory college-level course of Infectious Diseases in Colleges, Schools of Public Health, and for general reading. Long range benefits will be experienced by patients and clients who will be served by the health professionals for whom this text is intended”.

Dan R. Denson. Ed.D., C.H.E.S.

Professor of Health Education
McNeese State University Lake Charles, Louisiana

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“The textbook on Communicable Diseases for School and Community Health Promotion is an excellent reading covering 20 chapters of important health education information. The author introduces readers to the basics of communicable diseases. The book is highly recommended for school and community settings. Implications are evident for world-wide communicable diseases and public health awareness”.

Willie Daniel, Ph.D.

Department Head, Kinesiology, Sport and Leisure Studies (KSLS)
Grambling State University, Louisiana

Your book on Communicable Diseases for School and Community Health Promotion is well titled. I have read the brilliant introduction and preface to the book. I need to read the book myself. I certainly will make an announcement about the book at the upcoming Cameroon Group Gala night to which I belong and current Chairman of the Board of Governors. Good job as always and you are not done yet. You cannot take the other books still buried in you to the grave yard in future. Keep the knowledge here on earth before you get to age 100+.

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Prof. Congrats on this great exciting book for this generation.

Mba ACHI, M.D.
General Medicine, Germany

Congratulations for your new book! The reviews are fantastic and I believe that this will be a good text book for American colleges and universities as well as foreign universities. I will do my best to publicize your book

Pastor, Dr. William Ekane
Atlanta, GA

Warmest congratulations, brother Martin, on the publication of your book. I recall you had informed me that it was in the works, and I'm proud to see the excellent reviews. Given all your many activities, I'm impressed indeed that you were able to produce such a major research resource. Keep up the good work and continued success in the new year that beckons. Happy Holidays to you and your entire family. Fraternal regards.

Anonymous, Non-Professional (New York, NY)

Congrats on this great work. From the excerpts, I sense it adds value to our education on communicable diseases in schools. I am especially proud that this great piece of work is coming from my tribesman. May you continue to advance knowledge. Kudos, Prof.!

Edwin Ndum, Ph.D
Salt Lake City, Utah

CCCCOONNNGGRRRAATTTUUULLLAAATTTIIIOONNNSSS!!!

Tatah Mentan, Ph. D.
Minneapolis-St Paul, MN, USA

We join ICI CEMAC and others to congratulate you as well.
<http://www.icicemac.com/section/signature/11724/communicable-diseases-school-and-community-health-promotion-dr-martin-ayim>

Anonymous
Sydney, Australia

Very Good. This is what Dr. Martin Ayim should focus on. His HealthCare Profession & authoring books of value. This is where Dr. Martin Ayim excels.
Dr. Martin Ayim needs to steer clear of politics and political activism for he is indeed horrible on matters of this nature.

Pa Fru Ndeh
Washington, DC, USA

This is a great scholarly effort. I will buy one very fast. Dr. Ayim is simply multi talented. I congratulate him for this book. His other inclinations are his call to make. Dr. Ayim any upcoming book signings?

Julius Acham
Birmingham, AL, USA

Congratulations Prof.

Great work indeed. We are the richer for it.

Joel Kalle
Houston, Texas, USA

*Congratulation Dr. Ayim upon this great achievement! At a time when communicable diseases in all facets and name constitute a veritable threat to humanity, this piece; analytic, abstruse and, above all, simplistic in style, would be a "saving grace" in the hands of both the student and the teacher alike.
Again, congrats!*

Acha Cliffort
Dallas, Texas, USA

Congratulations Dr Ayim. This is Dr Sam Foncham in Dallas, TX, the son of Pa Matthew Foncham, RN (1929-2000) who worked with you in preventive Medicine B'da . I was glad to see you in Dallas last summer and watching your daughter play soccer. Congratulations for your book. I hope to buy one. I am sure that my dad (in blessed memory) will be very proud of your achievement. This is what my dad told me when you left: As a mentor, I will never block the progress of any young man or woman, after all I have children too who will one day make it abroad. Sure, my dad was a man of inspiration. I am sure you know how my dad kept things in confidence. You have proven to the world that even in Cameroon, you can play very competitive sports (soccer) at the highest level (first division) and still be in the academic world. Once again Congratulations.

Sam Foncham, Ph.D.
Dallas, Texas, USA

*Dear Dr. Ayim
Congratulations for this publication. I will look for it. Thank you for promoting excellence in scholarship.*

Elias Bongmba, Ph.D.
Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA

We Congratulate you on this scholarly product. Having been a PWD Bamenda football player, now professor, then now Author, You have made a statement that brings total respect to Footballers and youths. We thank you.

Anonymous
Bamenda, Cameroon

*Professor Ayim,
I have just bought a copy of your book "Communicable Diseases for School and Community Health Promotion". I must express my appreciation for the way you laid out your content, especially in the description of the 132 Communicable Diseases. It is so clear and understandable. I strongly recommend this book to various Governments to adopt as textbook for Health education or Personal health or Community Health from Secondary Schools upward because our youths need to know how to prevent HIV/AIDS and others you have discussed so well. Congratulations on this book.*

Gloria Smith
London, UK

I run a company which is a research driven firm focusing on the dissemination of information (through workshops and seminars) that empowers people and benefits corporate growth and profits. I would like to explore the possibilities of trying out your book title as a 2 to 3-day workshop in South Africa. This maybe a direct marketing tool for you in South Africa and Africa as a whole.

Anonymous

Johannesburg, South Africa
