Contents

Contributors List viii
Preface ix

SECTION 1 THE PATIENT

1 The consultation 3
Frank Coffey and Dianne Bowskill

2 Accountability and prescribing 15
Nigel Plant and Richard Pitt

3 Legal aspects of prescribing 26
Joy Wingfield

4 The ethics of prescribing 39
Richard Cooper

5 Prescribing in practice 47
Dianne Bowskill

6 Record keeping 58
Fiona Dobson

7 Public health issues 69
Michael Watson

Quiz answers 81

Glossary 84

SECTION 2 EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

8 What is evidence-based practice? 89
Fiona Batb-Hextall

9 How do we find the evidence? 101
Finola Delamere

10 What are the different types of study design? 111
Sarah Armstrong
## Contents

11 **Appraising the evidence**  
*Fiona Bath-Hextall and Sarah Armstrong*  
123

12 **How do we interpret the evidence?**  
*Jo Leonardi-Bee*  
136

13 **How do we apply the evidence?**  
*Nick Allcock*  
156

---

**Quiz answers**  
165

**Glossary**  
169

### SECTION 3 PHARMACOLOGY

14 **General principles underlying drug action**  
*Joanne Lymn*  
177

15 **Pharmacokinetics 1 – absorption and distribution**  
*Joanne Lymn*  
190

16 **Pharmacokinetics 2 – metabolism and excretion**  
*Joanne Lymn*  
204

17 **Routes of administration**  
*Roger Knaggs and Joanne Lymn*  
220

18 **Variations in drug handling**  
*Margaret Stone*  
229

19 **Adverse drug reactions and interactions**  
*Margaret Stone*  
240

20 **Introduction to the autonomic nervous system**  
*Joanne Lymn*  
251

21 **Clinical application of the principles of the autonomic nervous system**  
*Joanne Lymn*  
265

22 **The respiratory system**  
*Michael Schachter*  
277

23 **The cardiovascular system**  
*Martyn Kingsbury and Joanne Lymn*  
290

24 **Haemostasis and thrombosis**  
*Joanne Lymn*  
305
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>The renal system</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Judith Gregory and Sarah Jones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>The gastrointestinal system</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Briony Leighton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>The endocrine system</td>
<td>346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alison Mostyn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Contraception</td>
<td>361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alison Mostyn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Introduction to the central nervous system</td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Skingsley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Neurodegenerative disorders</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Skingsley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Depression and anxiety</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Skingsley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Schizophrenia</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Skingsley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Epilepsy and anticonvulsant drugs</td>
<td>416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Schachter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Pain and analgesia</td>
<td>427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roger Knaggs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Antibacterial chemotherapy</td>
<td>444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Hills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Antibiotic resistance and Clostridium difficile</td>
<td>461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Hills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Antifungal and antiviral drugs</td>
<td>472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Hills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quiz answers</td>
<td>482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Glossary</td>
<td>491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Index</td>
<td>498</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>