

Ocular Blood Flow, Editors: Kiel JW, Schmetterer L, (2012), ISBN 978-3-540-69468-7, Springer

Luís Abegão Pinto

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The book “Ocular Blood Flow” provides a deep, comprehensive coverage of the state of the art on this intriguing field of research. Over its 457 pages and 19 chapters, it takes the reader on a well-thought-out tour of the eye’s vascular anatomy, its physiology, what tools are available to measure it, and how it is altered in vascular-related ocular diseases.

Edited by two renowned experts in the field, Leopold Schmetterer and Jeffrey Kiel, the chapters themselves are written by a select group of leading scientists in their respective areas. Nevertheless, an internal coherent structure in the line of thought can be found between chapters, making it easier for the reader to go smoothly through the book as though it had been written by a single author. The chapters allow not only an updated review on each of the specific fields but also provide the reader with the strengths and caveats of the measuring techniques, thus enabling a wider and comprehensive approach to the subject. The vast number of illustrations and figure schematics are a valuable asset to the book.

Written in a direct, concise language, this textbook combines, in a one-piece, easy-to-carry volume, the type of

information that is usually found scattered in a number of separate books. Ranging from plain anatomy and physiology aspects to almost all of the known techniques used in this field, it still successfully covers both pathophysiology mechanisms and how each disease and its medical treatment can significantly affect blood flow. As an added value to this work, the presence of a section “Summary for the Clinician” in most chapters re-enforces the claim that this textbook is intended not only for the basic researcher looking for a solid consultation book but also for the clinical ophthalmologist with an interest in this field. This translational approach provides the reader both the fundamental basics of the intricate mechanisms regulating ocular blood flow and also the clinical relevance of this field of study in diseases such as glaucoma, diabetes mellitus, and age-related macular degeneration.

In conclusion, if the reader, regardless of his or her background, wants to have an easy-to-read, detailed, and up-to-date insight into this interesting field of research, this is the book to get.

L. A. Pinto (✉)
Institute of Pharmacology and Neurosciences, Faculty of Medicine of
Lisbon University, Av. Prof. Egas Moniz, 1649-035 Lisbon, Portugal
e-mail: abegaopinto@gmail.com