Contents

Introduction		
ı	Epidemiology and histology	1
2	Prognosis	5
3	Genetics	7
	Family studies	7
	Census studies	7
	Twin studies	7
	Human leukocyte antigens	7
	Chromosome loci and possible genes	9
4	Etiology	11
	Environmental triggers	11
	Physical trauma	11
	Infections	11
	Stress	12
	Drugs	12
	Hypocalcemia	12
	Alcohol	13
	Climate	13
5	Pathogenesis	15
	Immunopathology	15
	Antigen-presenting cells	16
	Cytokines	16
	Nature of the antigen	18
	Streptococcal exotoxins	18

	Cellular streptococcal proteins	18
	Evidence for M protein being the antigen in psoriasis	20
	Evidence for other cell wall and membrane peptides being the antigen in psoriasis	20
	Are the effector T cells in psoriasis CD4 or CD8?	21
	How do the T cells enter the skin?	21
	The innate immune system	23
6	Clinical features	25
	Age of onset	25
	Sex predilection	25
	Morphology	25
7	Sites and clinical patterns	33
	Plaque psoriasis	33
	Guttate psoriasis	37
	Chronic plaque combined with guttate psoriasis	39
	Koebner phenomenon	40
	Erythrodermic psoriasis	40
	Pustular psoriasis	42
	Generalized pustular psoriasis	42
	Localized pustular psoriasis	44
	Acral psoriasis	44
	Seborrheic psoriasis	46
	Childhood psoriasis	46
	Diaper 'psoriasis'	49
	Linear psoriasis	51
	Psoriasis at specific sites	51
	Scalp	51
	Beard and pubic area	52
	Palms and soles	53
	Flexures and intertriginous areas	57
	Genitalia	57
	Mucous membranes	59
	Nails	61
8	Differential diagnosis	67
	Chronic plaque psoriasis	67
	Guttate psoriasis	67
	Erythrodermic psoriasis	67
	Generalized pustular psoriasis	67
	Localized pustular psoriasis	68

	Acral psoriasis	68
	Seborrheic psoriasis	68
	Childhood psoriasis	68
	Scalp psoriasis	68
	Psoriasis of the palms and soles	68
	Flexural psoriasis	69
	Nails Linear psoriasis	69
		69
9	Psoriatic arthropathy	71
	Epidemiology	71
	Genetics	71
	Clinical features in peripheral arthropathy	72
	Spinal arthritis	72
	Relationship between skin lesions and arthropathy	73
	Relationship between nail involvement and arthropathy	73
	Extra-articular features	73
	Treatment	73
	Prognosis	74
10	Treatment	75
	Topical drugs	75
	Topical corticosteroids	75
	Coal tar preparations	78
	Dithranol	79
	Vitamin D analogues	80
	Retinoids	80
	Topical calcineurin inhibitors	80
	Ultraviolet light	81
	Phototherapy	81
	Laser	82
	Photochemotherapy (PUVA)	82
	Topical PUVA	83
	Climatic therapy	84
	Oral therapy	84
	Methotrexate	84
	Acitretin	85
	Cyclosporin	85
	Rotation of systemic drugs	86
	Other systemic drugs	87

AN ATLAS OF PSORIASIS

Combined treatments	87
Topical corticosteroids and vitamin D analogues	87
Coal tar and ultraviolet light	87
Acitretin and photochemotherapy	87
Systemic drugs and topical treatment	87
Biologicals	87
Recombinant cytokines	87
Anticytokines	88
Infliximab	88
Etanercept	88
Alfacept	88
Efalizumab	88
General comment on biologicals	88
Future treatments	89
References	91
Index	93