

BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of "Koelsch's Textbook of Occupational Diseases"

REFERENCE: Kersten, E., Ed., *Koelschs Handbuch der Berufserkrankungen*, Vols. I and II, 4th ed, VEB Gustav Fischer Verlag, Jena, DDR, 1972, 901 pages.

This is the fourth revised edition of an old and standard work on occupational diseases. The first printing of this book took place in 1935.

In a concise encyclopedic fashion common to German books, and methodically arranged to include all pertinent facts, the two volumes of this book represent an excellent descriptive text of toxic agents, their effects, and dangers of exposure (Vol. I) and diseases related to environmental causes (Vol. II).

The ease with which information can be retrieved from this text is, undoubtedly, a great attribute and is due to the perfect corroboration of clinical and anamnestic data with the diagnosis and type of occupation. Pertinent reference material is listed within the text and at the end of the second volume.

Thirty-three authors, each an expert in his field, contributed to this work. I strongly recommend it, although the knowledge of scientific German is required for understanding.

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