

Aquatic Dermatology

Biotic, Chemical
and Physical Agents

Second Edition

Domenico Bonamonte
Gianni Angelini
Editors

 Springer

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*To Davide
Elizabeth
Gianmarco*

Preface to Second Edition

The rapid growth of knowledge in the field of skin diseases due to aquatic agents makes publication of this second edition of “*Aquatic Dermatology*” particularly timely. Fourteen years ago, the first edition of the monograph was written with the object of spreading a better knowledge of a somewhat neglected sector of dermatology. But now, thanks to the unlimited spread of aquatic activities for all sorts of purposes (holiday, sport, working activities) and to the advances in the understanding of the biology of marine animals, many elements have become mainstays of the new text. Therefore, this edition reinforces that earlier goal and has the aim of being easily accessible to all those (clinicians, dermatologists, biologists, marine biologists, emergency doctors, beach lifeguards) interested in the clinical and basic science of aquatic dermatology.

Each chapter of the first edition has been extensively revised, and a new chapter on traumatic injuries caused by fish has been added. Diagnostic elements and medical therapeutics sections have been expanded to reflect the importance of the different diseases. Moreover, this edition has been enhanced by the addition of many figures of clinical pictures and aquatic animals, as well as new tables, that offer a faster overview of the key aspects of each topic. Finally, the title of the work has been partly modified in order to highlight the various etiological, biotic, chemical, and physical aspects underlying the manifold clinical-pathogenic pictures that can be induced in fresh and seawaters, as well as artificial pools, household water supplies, and aquaria, in different parts of the globe.

Bari, Italy
May 2016

Gianni Angelini, MD
Domenico Bonamonte, MD, PhD

Preface to First Edition

This updated and extended edition of a work first published in Italian 10 years ago owes its revised production in both Italian and English to a series of factors. Foremost among them is the ever growing number of skin diseases caused by aquatic organisms, affecting the immense population that flocks to the water for holiday, sports, and professional activities. Aquatic skin diseases are no longer only a seasonal affliction but can be observed at any period, thanks to the boom of aquatic holidaymaking throughout the year.

The volume of literature in the field of aquatic dermatology is rapidly expanding. In the USA, one of the nations that is particularly attuned to the problem, a Bulletin, the “Jellyfish Sting Newsletter” has been issued six-monthly for the last 10 years. It is edited by Prof. Joseph W Burnett (Department of Dermatology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, International Consortium for Jellyfish Stings, 405 W Redwood St., 6th floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, USA), one of the great pioneers and researchers in the field of skin reactions to marine organisms.

The widespread passion for aquariums filled with tropical saltwater or freshwater animals, together with various pathogenic bacteria, has also contributed to the increase in aquatic skin diseases.

In this new edition of the book, etiological and clinical aspects have been thoroughly updated and the illustrations renewed. Greater attention has also been paid to aquatic biotic agents from tropical countries that can now be observed everywhere as “imported” diseases.

Finally, the book aims to make a modest contribution to the knowledge of some aquatic animals that have only developed a poisonous apparatus for protective purposes. A fuller understanding of these fascinating creatures may help people to better appreciate the beauty of the aquatic environment and to enjoy this enthralling habitat at lesser risk.

Bari, Italy
May 2002

Gianni Angelini, MD
Domenico Bonamonte, MD, PhD

Acknowledgments

This book is a revised and updated version of a monograph published in 2002. Cordial thanks went in the previous edition to all the people who had contributed to it, and for much of the work collected in this volume these thanks are heartily renewed.

This second edition has been enriched by the precious contributions of many colleagues, to whom we are deeply grateful. Professor Vidal Haddad Jr., of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of São Paulo (Botucatu), Brazil, a great specialist and world famous author of books and articles on aquatic dermatology due to biotic agents, and a great friend, has honored us by contributing to this monograph a strong impact topic that complements and completes our book. The young doctors Angela Filoni, Paolo Romita, Pietro Verni, and Michelangelo Vestita, of the Dermatological Clinic of Bari University Hospital, have devoted great enthusiasm and interest to helping us to draw up this monograph; we make them our most sincere compliments and wish them splendid professional careers.

The G.R.O. photoarchive of Catania (Sicily) of Dr. Filippo Massari and Fabrizio Frixia and Dr. Pablo Helman (coauthor with Susanna Volpe of the interesting book on marine biology “Il Quaderno Blu,” Provincia di Imperia Ed., 1995) have most generously contributed superb quality photographic material to the present edition. The images of marine fauna and flora marina have made the work both more interesting and extremely attractive.

We would like to thank the publishers Piccin (Padova, Italy), Poletto (Gaggiano, Milano, Italy), Cambridge University Press (Cambridge, UK), and John Libbey Eurotext, Editor of *European Journal of Dermatology* (Montrouge, France) for having kindly authorized the reproduction of various figures.

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Gianni Angelini
Domenico Bonamonte

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