



## **New Challenges in Foetal and Neonatal Infections**

**Editors: Luis Pereira-da Silva and Maria Teresa Neto**

**Research Signpost**

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## **New Challenges in Foetal and Neonatal Infections**

Octávio Cunha

A edição do livro *New Challenges in Foetal and Neonatal Infections* por dois pediatras/neonatólogos portugueses é facto pouco frequente num país que se orgulha de ter uma das mais baixas taxas de mortalidade infantil e neonatal do mundo. Acresce a tal a satisfação verificar que os autores de três capítulos são prestigiados neonatólogos portugueses (o que muito

nos honra). Trata-se de uma publicação de alta qualidade científica bastando para tal verificar o elevado prestígio dos autores.

A sistematização de conceitos e atitudes numa área tão sensível como a infecciologia neonatal é um contributo acrescido para as boas práticas nos cuidados aos recém-nascidos.

### **Do Prefácio do livro:**

Scientific and technological advances in perinatal medicine have given developed countries the ability to diagnose congenital anomalies, control pregnant women's diseases, monitor foetal wellbeing, induce maturation and decide the time for the child to be born. After birth, it is feasible to maintain respiratory function by artificial ventilation, feed through intravenous catheters, diagnose intracranial haemorrhages and perform other complicated diagnosis and treatments. Despite these wonderful advances and all the screening policies, preventive measures and antibiotic use, prenatal and neonatal infections continue to be one of the most frequent and severe conditions affecting the newborn infant. In developing countries the picture is still gloomier, because neither those advances have been reached nor other more basic requirements fulfilled. Since the publication in 1991 of the essential book "Neonatal Infections" by Isaacs and Moxon, which is still a reference, there is a shortage of handbook publications on this subject. We do not intend to compete with or attempt to replace so important a publication. Our aim is to update some of the issues and

concerns covering not only neonatal but also congenital and perinatal infections. In cooperation with Research Signpost, we ventured on the challenging task of concentrating in one volume some of the most important topics on this issue. Leading experts on each topic have collaborated with the editors in order to provide the reader with an updated theoretical and practical approach on the most common and difficult infectious conditions in prenatal and neonatal medicine. Chapters on specific infections such as those caused by group B Streptococcus, Gram-negative bacteria, Staphylococci, enterovirus, fungi, herpes simplex, HIV, and malaria, viral hepatitis, syphilis, rubella, toxoplasmosis, varicella and tuberculosis are included. Moreover, some general subjects have also been covered such as principles for antibiotics prescription, epidemiology of neonatal infection, isolation measures and the risk of pregnant and newborn travellers to tropical areas. We are confident that this will be a useful handbook to obstetricians, paediatricians and neonatologists working on the fascinating field of perinatology and neonatology.