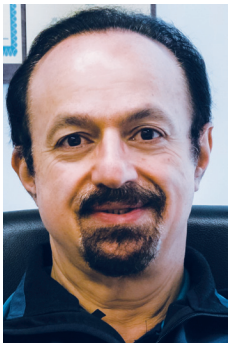
Yazdan Mirzanejad, MD, DTM&H, FRCPC, FACP

Current approaches to infectious diseases, Part 1

"Knowing is not enough; we must apply.
Willing is not enough; we must do." —Goethe



Dr Yazdan Mirzanejad

Infectious diseases are the most common diagnoses in inpatient and outpatient medicine.[1,2]

We are facing many emerging infectious diseases challenges in the light of current epidemics such as SARS-CoV-2, HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria, as well as the rapid spread of multidrug-resistant bacteria around the world.[3-6] Therefore, it is imperative that various practitioners have basic updated knowledge about general clinical infectious diseases approaches in order to provide good patient care.

As the guest editor for this theme issue, I selected eight important and practical topics and matched them with eight groups of experts in those fields to provide the most up-to-date information.

The first article in part 1 of this theme issue provides an overview of the development of infrastructure for the subspecialty of infectious diseases in BC since 1978 (Chow).[5-8] The second article describes the evolving roles for outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy, which could provide an alternative path to more cost-effective care by alleviating crowded acute care settings without compromising the safety and quality of care delivery (Azhir and Chapman).[9-11] The third article presents a state-of-the-art review on the principles of transplant medicine and the highlights of an excellent service approach provided within this highly sophisticated discipline (Fakhredine and colleagues).[12-14]

The last article describes the state of various sexually transmitted infections in BC, including soaring rates of some diseases, the improvement in diagnosis due to new molecular testing and treatment strategies, and available consultancy to the practitioners for early guidance in due course of management (Zewude and colleagues).[15-17] ■

Dr Mirzanejad is a clinical professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases, University of British Columbia, and an infectious diseases consultant at the Surrey campus/Jim Pattison Outpatient Care and Surgery Centre.

This editorial has been peer reviewed.

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