

# THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



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Dr. Olle Selinus  
c/o Elsevier Academic Press  
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USA

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**Dean's Office**

**Re:           Review: Essentials of Medical Geology**  
**Olle Selinus et al**  
**Elsevier Academic Press, 2005**

Dear Dr. Selinus:

This is an extraordinary book. It is compendial and readily informative at the same time. In review of those aspects of the book in which I have some personal expertise for example, Biological Functions of Elements such as Zinc in gene expression or iodine in goiter and cretinism, I found the material authoritative and up-to-date. Moreover, some aspects were presented in such a way as to allow me to broaden and consider additional contexts and details that I had not connected previously.

The sections on Environmental Pathology and Environmental Medicine were similarly elegant. Our understanding of Medicine as physicians is typically mammalian and specifically human. This book extends knowledge of functions to include other species from viruses and bacteria to primates and further to plants showing environmental interactions in a most engaging manner.

In the early chapters, there is a thorough discussion engaging complexities such as proving the essentiality of trace elements in a clear way. Some descriptions are very basic and clear which appeals to those of us with a now distant background in inorganic chemistry as well as to those with chemical backgrounds but limited prior knowledge of biological functions. Again, these fundamentals are built upon throughout the book, for example, in the well-organized presentation of processes such as particle inhalation/ disposition & clearance. Such precisely described sections as the description of asbestoses adds clarity to what most of us "know" from diffuse presentations, personal suppositions and intuitive generalizations.

I'm most pleased to have had the opportunity to learn a lot while I reviewed this book and thus recommend it highly and without reservation. It's a "must-have" for a well rounded Academic Bookshelf!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David F. Hardwick'.

David F. Hardwick, MD, FRCPC, LLD  
Professor of Pathology and Pediatrics  
The University of British Columbia