

PREFACE

Recent advances in fixation of tissues for electron microscopy have resulted in the preservation of a greater detail of fine structure than was previously anticipated. In addition they permit a better preservation of tissues for routine examination of control sections in the light microscope. Adequately differentiated, toluidine blue-stained sections of one micron or less in thickness, when examined in the light microscope, allow a considerable improvement in resolution over conventionally prepared sections. As a consequence, it was decided that a coordinated study by both light and electron microscopy of thin sections of the most commonly encountered tissues of animals would be of value to the student of biological structure. Some aspects of cell and organelle surfaces, obtained by the freeze-etching technique, have been included to provide a tridimensional concept of the cell. Functional aspects have been considered wherever applicable and, in this respect, a few illustrations of the results of histochemical, cytochemical, and autoradiographic studies have been included. Unless otherwise stated, the tissues have been taken from the perfused laboratory rat.

This atlas is a condensation of Volumes I and II of "Cells and Tissues by Light and Electron Microscopy" (Academic Press, Inc., New York and London, 1970). It is designed to provide the student with the essentials for a basic knowledge of animal cells and tissues.

EDMUND B. SANDBORN

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