Having reached its 20th edition, this book needs no introduction. Few medical textbooks can equal the longevity attained by this publication. First published in 1908 by Dr. Todd, several editors have guided this text, a new edition of which has appeared approximately every 5 years since the early 1960s. The current editor, Dr. John Bernard Henry, joined Dr. Davidsohn in 1969 and has now overseen seven editions of the book. He is ably assisted in the latest edition by 6 associate editors and 88 other contributors, many of whom are recognized experts in their respective fields.

Although several textbooks are available for the individual components that comprise laboratory medicine, this book undertakes the daunting task of covering the whole discipline. The objectives are delineated in the foreword and indicate that the goal of the book is to serve as a resource of scientific information in virtually all aspects of laboratory …