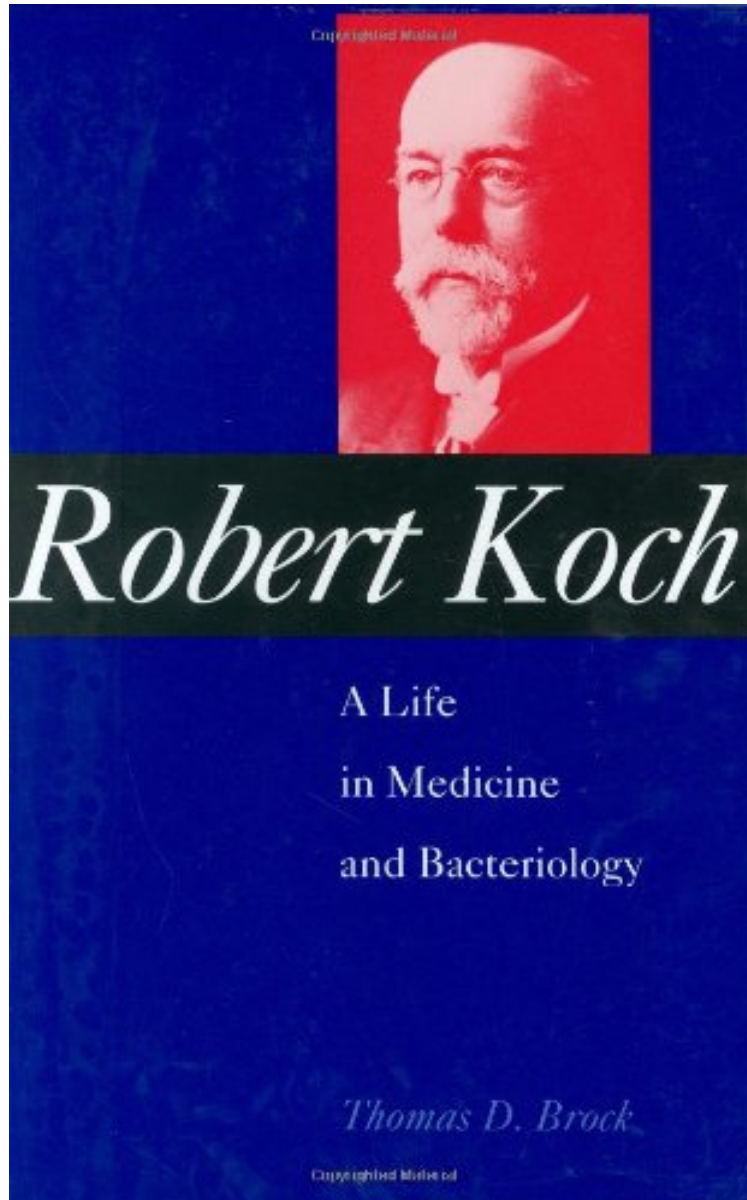


(Ebook pdf) Robert Koch: A Life in Medicine and Bacteriology

Robert Koch: A Life in Medicine and Bacteriology

Thomas D. Brock

*ePub | *DOC | audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2318054 in Books 1999Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.84 x .59 x 7.87l, 1.82 #File Name:
1555811434364 pagesmircobilogists, microbiology, microbiologist, Robert Koch, German microbiology |
File size: 22.Mb

Thomas D. Brock : Robert Koch: A Life in Medicine and Bacteriology before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Robert Koch: A Life in Medicine and Bacteriology:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Anthrax, staphylococcus, tuberculosis, choleraBy Daniel PutmanThe

bacteria that caused these four major killers were identified by one man, Robert Koch, one of the most significant people in the history of medicine and one of the founders of bacteriology. Thomas Brock's excellent biography of Koch shows us the development of not just Koch's life but also the history of medicine in the late 19th century. The book has two real strengths. First, it is clearly written, extremely well-organized, and easy to follow. Brock knows when to include information and when to leave out details extraneous to his main goal. His chapter organization with subtitles within the chapters makes following the book an easy task. The paragraphs are well-formed with excellent transitions and internal coherence. Given the amount of data to be covered, it is an excellent example of how to organize a biography of a complex and brilliant person. Second, the book covers all aspects of Koch's life, from his amazing skills at using the scientific method to isolate bacteria to his arrogance and sometimes dangerous claims later in his life. Koch's early work is one of the clearest examples of science in action that a reader can find. His "postulates" for identifying disease organisms are now standard procedure in medicine and the clarity of his method is still astounding. He was among the first to use new techniques or materials available (e.g., agar and Petri dishes) and Brock does a terrific job of showing the reader how Koch's method functioned. Brock is also careful to mention predecessors and people on whose work Koch depended. After Koch became world-renowned, he made the mistake, we might say today, of believing too much in his own image. Spurred in part by the fact that he worked for the German government and partly by his own arrogance, Koch made claims about tuberculin as a cure for tuberculosis that soon proved wrong and sometimes dangerous. While early in his life Koch learned from his mistakes and used them to improve his work, later in his life he found it almost impossible to accept criticism. Brock also covers Koch's personal life well. After a failed marriage he married a woman thirty years younger and, when he was attacked after the tuberculin scandal, he and his wife began a long series of trips to equatorial countries to do work on tropical diseases. Brock implies that part of the reason for these trips was Koch's love of travel but a major reason was to get away from the attacks on him in Germany. He maintained a close relationship with his daughter and Brock cites several letters that show a different side of the man. Brock spells out the often vicious debate between Koch and Pasteur, at least part of which was caused by a simple misunderstanding of language elevated into a major dispute by the egos of both men and by the rivalry of the French and the Germans. This book gives you all sides of the man. If the book has a defect, it is that it was first published over 25 years ago. But I found almost nothing in the book that makes the book "dated"; Brock has given us an informative, very well-written and thoroughly enjoyable biography of one of the founders of modern medicine. I highly recommend it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Balwan Interesting biography of an exceptional scientist. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By GUSTAVO GOMEZ Good

Robert Koch may be considered the founder of medical bacteriology, and he was the driving force in the development of microbiology. Koch discovered the causes of tuberculosis and cholera and played a major role in the development of hygiene and public health. The techniques he developed, have served as major tools of research in the whole field of medicine. Koch's associates and followers, using his techniques, discovered the whole array of bacteria that were the major scourges of humans. These discoveries led directly to the development of vaccines and other immunological procedures, and (ultimately) to the discovery of antibiotics. Koch's major contributions were recognized by the award of the Nobel Prize in 1905.