

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION	1
REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE	3
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	3
DEFINITION AND CLASSIFICATION	4
AETIOLOGY	9
Drugs	9
Foods and food additives	13
Inhalants	16
Infection and infestations	17
Psychological factors	20
General medical disorders	22
Contactants	25
PATHOGENESIS	26
Mast cells, basophils, mediators, and complement	26
Immunologic urticaria	36
Non-immunologic urticaria	46
Modulating factors	48
Genetic factors	49
HISTOPATHOLOGY	50
CLINICAL PICTURE AND VARIETIES	52
Angioedema	54
Physical urticarias	55
Hereditary angioedema	62
Urticarial vasculitis	66
DIAGNOSIS	67

	<u>Page</u>
TREATMENT	76
Acute allergic urticaria	76
Chronic urticaria	77
Physical urticarias	85
Hereditary angioedema	90
Urticarial vasculitis	93
SUMMARY	94
REFERENCES	101
ARABIC SUMMARY	