The study guide addresses two highly dangerous infectious transboundary diseases – sheep pox and goat pox. It particular, current literature data and the results of in-house research activities regarding sheep pox and goat pox epidemic situation in the Russian Federation and in the world are provided. Data on etiological structure and morphology of causative agents, sources of infection and transmission factors, pathogenesis patterns with indication of pathological process stages in infected animals, main clinical signs of the diseases and post-mortem lesions in sheep and goats are presented.

Considerable attention is given to the special aspects of sheep pox and goat pox diagnosis; methods for collection of biological material samples for virologic, serological, molecular genetic and histological tests are described in detail.

Attention is drawn to the necessity of differential diagnosis; the diseases and factors to be ruled out are indicated.

The study guide is extensively illustrated with figures showing specific clinical manifestations and post-mortem lesions in goat pox virus- and sheep pox virus-infected animals.

The study guide is targeted at students and trainees, in particular undergraduates, postgraduates, retrainees, and serves as the source of state-of-the-art knowledge on such significant infectious diseases as sheep pox and goat pox. Besides, the material will be helpful for the specialists of the state veterinary service and veterinary surveillance bodies of the country.

In my opinion, the publication of this study guide is timely, relevant and useful not only for students and trainees, but also for a wide range of veterinary professionals dealing with infections.