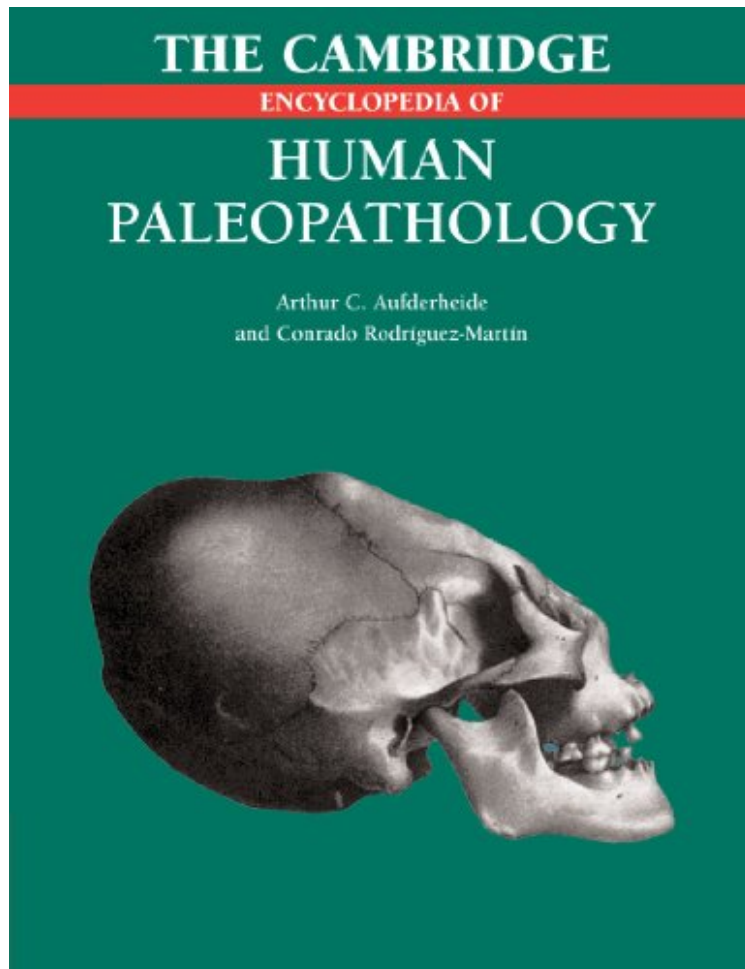


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## The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Paleopathology

*Arthur C. Aufderheide, Conrado Rodriguez-Martin*  
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**Arthur C. Aufderheide, Conrado Rodriguez-Martin : The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Paleopathology** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Paleopathology:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. PalaepathologyBy Prof.Dr.Gerhard KruegerThis is an excellent information for pathologists not being aware too much about what's known of ancient pathology. I had to review some old bones from excavations and this book (as well as others) were of great help.GK0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great!By CustomerExcellent book! This is exactly what I needed for my research!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ancient Neoplastic DiseaseBy Ron BraithwaiteI've found this tome useful in my own research and future publication as to Cancer Causation. The author gives a number of cases of almost certain and highly probable ancient cancers. He also states, quite correctly, that because 90% of present day cancers occur in

people over 55...and...because most ancient people died before 55, we can reasonably expect that few ancient remains will show evidence of cancer. Besides that, the vast majority of ancient remains consist of bone, more often than not incomplete skeletons and, bony lesions secondary to cancer are present in the minority of cases, even today, the incidence of detectable ancient cancers is reduced even further. These, and other problems associated with examination of ancient remains means that detectable ancient cancers will be uncommon enough to render statistical analysis and comparisons with present day cancers virtually impossible. About all we can say is that ancient cancers did exist and are occasionally detectable especially as osteolytic and osteoblastic metastases. Like many other pathology experts, I think the author makes a mistake to emphasize the role of 'carcinogens'. Unfortunately this term has become almost synonymous with 'mutagens' which is surely a mistake. He mentions ancient and present day asbestoses which is a carcinogen but not a mutagen. He suggests that certain cancers might be expected to be less common in ancient people because of the absence of modern day, industrial 'carcinogens'. Maybe a little bit but my thought is that such modern day 'pollutants' increase cancer incidence only slightly.

The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Paleopathology is a major reference work for all those interested in the identification of disease in human remains. Many diseases leave characteristic lesions and deformities on human bones, teeth and soft tissues that can be identified many years after death. This comprehensive volume includes all conditions producing effects recognizable with the unaided eye. Detailed lesion descriptions and over 300 photographs and diagrams facilitate disease recognition and each condition is placed in context with discussion of its history, antiquity, etiology, epidemiology, geography, and natural history. Uniquely, diseases affecting the soft tissues are also included as these are commonly present in mummified remains.

"All human life, death, and disease is here, meticulously described and remorselessly illustrated in forensic detail. This is an indispensable guide to the downside of being human." *New Scientist*"This book is a valuable source of information mainly for physical anthropologists, historians, and students not familiar with modern human pathology. The references are excellent and cover worldwide topics related to this subspecialty." *Modern Pathology*"This is a well illustrated and written text on all the aspects of human paleopathology from 'abortion' to 'zimenematosis'. A well indexed world class reference." *Journal of American Association of Forensic Dentists*"The two medical authors have produced a major reference work for all who are interested in the history of disease and the identification of specific conditions in skeletal and mummified soft tissue remains. Aufderheide and Rodriguez-Martn are to be congratulated for producing such a well-integrated text full of interesting insights concerning the multidisciplinary field of paleopathology: old controversies are summarized, new techniques are described, and many diseases not yet recognized in ancient remains are included with the expectation that refined analysis of ancient human remains will aid in their diagnosis." R. Ted Steinbock, MD, *Journal of the American Medical Association*"[The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Paleopathology] will be valuable to archaeologists, osteologists, paleopathologists, demographers, and medical historians. University and college libraries must add this to their collections because it offers new perspectives on the analysis of disease in past and present populations." *Choice*"...the Cambridge Encyclopedia of Human Paleopathology should be a welcomed addition to the library of any paleopathology professional, upper-level graduate student interested in paleopathology or archaeologist with an advanced understanding of human anatomy." Jennifer Yaeger Fillion, *SAS Bulletin*