

Vir 'n groot getal kollegas was hy mentor en ware vriend. Om hom as vriend te kon hê was 'n verrykende en inspirerende voorreg. Ewesom het sy invloed op die denke van die huisarts-gemeenskap landswyd, in pas met sulke denkrigtings in die buiteland, 'n nuwe dinamiese era ingelui waarin huisartskunde ('family medicine') uiteindelik in al die fakulteite van geneeskunde in Suid-Afrika inslag gevind het.

Uiteindelik strek sy invloed veel verder as net die dinge wat hyself vermag het. Dit lê in meer as die wonderlike heelmeester en ware vriend in nood wat hy vir sy pasiënte was. Dit moet gesien word in die besieling wat van hom uitgegaan het, die voorbeeld wat hy deurentyd gestel het as een van die mees navolgenswaardige rolmodelle in wat hy ookal aangepak het.

Ons sal Howard blywend onthou vir sy benadering tot die pasiënt as mens, die beoefening van geheelmens-geneeskunde en sy diepe liefde vir sy beroep. Vir sy vele dankbare pasiënte was hy veel meer as net nog 'n dokter. Sy presiesheid en deeglikheid, sy byna onversteurbare kalmte en wysheid, sy wonderlike humorsin, die egtheid van sy vriendskap, is verdere voorbeelde van sy nalatenskap.

Ook sal hy onthou word as die wonderlike eggenoot, vader en oupa wat hy was. Menslik gesproke, het hy sy lewenstaak oor en oor vervul. Hy het sy beste gelewer in al sy doen en late — in sy omgang met mense en veral sy gesin, as kerkman en ywerige student van die Bybel, in sy stokperdjies en sport, in sy akademiese en skrywerstake. Dit was alles deel van hoe hy sy christenskap prakties uitgeleef het.

Namens almal in die beroep wat soveel aan hom te danke het, wil ons ons innige medelye aan Werda, sy kinders en kleinkinders en ander familieleden en aan sy groot vriendekring oordra.

Books

Fertility Management. Contraception in Practice

By C. J. Roux. Pp. xiii + 154. Illustrated. R49. Cape Town: Juta Legal & Academic Publishers. 1995. ISBN 0-7021-3254-3.

This book addresses an extremely important aspect of primary health care, not only for our country but for the whole of sub-Saharan Africa. It indeed appears that fertility regulation is probably the most important factor to consider when addressing the unacceptably high maternal mortality rates and economic hardship experienced in many developing countries.

Having worked in the family planning Unit of Tygerberg Hospital for many years Charl Roux is well-equipped to write on this subject and has done so in a text which is aimed primarily at family planning personnel and medical students but could also be used as a very handy reference guide for practitioners with an interest in this field. It reads easily and conveys the gist of the matter without confusing one with unnecessary detail and jargon.

The chapters on demography and postcoital contraception are of extreme importance to all.

A few points of dissent do, however, arise, and it must be pointed out that Postoval is not a contraceptive, that fimbriectomy is no longer advised as a method of contraception and that herpes simplex virus has given way to the human papillomavirus in the aetiology of carcinoma of the cervix.

These concerns apart, *Fertility Management* can be recommended as a quick and affordable reference guide for all family planners.

Paul C. Duminy

Management of Neurological Disorders*

Edited By C. M. Wiles. Pp. viii + 325. £27. London: BMJ. 1995. ISBN 0-7279-0903-7.

This book is a comprehensive approach to the management of neurological disorders. In a similar manner to the book *Neurological Emergencies* (Hughes R. A. C., BMJ Publishing Group 1994) previously reviewed in this journal, the book represents a compilation of commissioned articles published recently in the *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry*. The topics and authors represent the best of neurology and neurosurgery found in the United Kingdom today. C. D. Marsden from London writes the chapter on Parkinsons disease. He is probably the most authoritative figure in the movement disorder field today. Similarly David Chadwick from Liverpool on epilepsy, M. N. Rossor from London on dementia, P. N. Leigh from King's college on motor neurone disease and many others. They form a total of 12 well written and up-to-date chapters.

The subject matter chosen is not esoteric but very down to earth. The main theme is patient care and management, thus high powered aetiological and neuroscientific concepts are alluded to where relevant but never drown the message of patient care.

The editor, C. M. Wiles from University of Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff, has not shied away from embracing the more difficult aspects of neurology today. One of the most useful chapters in the book, written by Macmillan and Harper from Cardiff is the section on clinical genetics in neurological disease. The previous perception of therapeutic nihilism towards inherited neurological disorders is tackled firmly and clearly. The chapter approaches two groups — those in which genetic loci have been identified but the gene has not yet been cloned (e.g. Friedrich's Ataxia 9Q13-21) and those for which the genes have been isolated and the relevant product characterised (eg. Huntington's disease 4p16.3). In the former group family linkage studies can play a useful role in patient and family management. In the latter situation a comprehensive genetic counselling service should be available prior to undertaking molecular genetic analysis.

At the other extreme, everyday diseases frequently in the hands of non-specialists such as headache, stroke, head injury, meningitis and neuro-rehabilitation are brilliantly and practically reviewed. McLellan from Southampton General

* Book titles marked may be ordered directly from MASA Publications, Book Department, Private Bag X1, Pinelands, 7430, tel. (021) 531-3081, fax (021) 531-4126, e-mail masact@aztec.co.za.

Hospital uses the type of table that can easily be adapted to primary health care needs e.g. the A-H of prevention describing accident, broken skin, contracture, diet, elimination, fitness, general health.

This book has a section for every type of doctor, student or health care professional involved in the care of neurological patients. A small handy, soft covered book, fairly reasonably priced, it should become an indispensable part of the immediate reference books of family practice doctors, physicians and neurologists. It will probably become one of the most well read and consulted books available in the field of practical neurological management.

V. U. Fritz

Gastrointestinal Cancers: Biology, Diagnosis and Therapy

Edited by Anil K. Rustgi. Illustrated. US\$194.50. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott-Raven. 1995. ISBN 0-7817-02763.

'Scribble, scribble, scribble, another damn heavy square book, eh, Mr Gibbon' was the Royal enjoiner to the Decline and Fall; this is a thick book of almost 700 pages — well-written, appropriately illustrated and expensive. It is, however, a multi-author magnum opus. Over a third of the 39 chapters are written by Boston authors, and all but three of the remainder by equally authoritative workers from elsewhere in the United States. The general format is organ based, with individual authors providing chapters on the clinical and diagnostic aspects, pathology, biology, chemo- and radiation therapy and surgery of oesophageal, gastric, pancreatic, bowel and other GI cancers. The book begins with separate chapters on GI biology, with an excellent overview of development and differentiation, and more routine chapters on growth factors and oncogenes/tumour suppressor genes. The book ends with a forward look to molecular diagnosis, gene therapy and immunotherapy. While many of these chapters are solid reviews of their respective fields, there is little or no attempt to synthesise a more global view — a not uncommon problem in most multi-author books; this defect, together with significant overlap, can only be avoided by stringent and creative editing. Some of the early and other basic science chapters lack integration with the clinical sphere.

Who will read the book? It is certainly a must for all medical and specialised libraries. The book offers an impressive update for molecular biology students and researchers, although the latter may find the reference lists in some of the rapidly evolving areas already dated. They will no doubt be impressed by the advances in diagnosis, and may be spurred on to even more frenetic activity by the pervading ablative and heavy-handed surgical approach to cancer. Surgeons and gastroenterologists will find the clinical, diagnostic and therapeutic reviews of immense value. Controversial issues such as the Barrett's/oesophageal cancer and *H. pylori*/gastric cancer debates are an added bonus, but those trying to wade through the hard science in the book will probably have difficulty in getting their toes wet. They may be titillated by the new world of transgenic mice, growth factors, molecular diagnostics, tumour immunology, oncogenes, genetic

markers and gene therapy, but may well ponder their current clinical relevance. The book offers tantalising glimpses of a more rational and high-tech approach to cancer. The cancer patient, sadly, will have a long wait before the ultimate book — the Decline and Fall of cancer surgery — is written.

I. N. Marks

Books received

The receipt of these books is acknowledged, and this listing must be regarded as sufficient return for the courtesy of the sender. Books that appear to be of particular interest will be reviewed as space permits. The SAMJ does not publish unsolicited reviews.

Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy: A Reappraisal. Progress in Pain Research and Management Volume 6. Edited by Wilfrid Jänig and Michael Stanton-Hicks. Pp. x + 241. Illustrated. \$55. Seattle, USA: IASP Press. 1996. ISBN 0-931092-13-2.

Cancer Pain Relief. Second Edition. WHO. Pp. vi + 63. Geneva: WHO. 1996. ISBN 92-154482-1.

Fisiologie van die Mens. 4de uitgawe. B. J. Meyer en H. S. Meij in samewerking met S. V. Grey en A. C. Meyer. Geëllistreerd. R131.49. Pretoria: Kagiso Uitgewers. 1996. ISBN 0-7986-3557-6.

Tris(2,3-dibromopropyl) Phosphate and Bis(2,3-dibromopropyl) Phosphate. Environmental Health Criteria No. 173. WHO. Pp. 129. Sw.fr.21/US\$18.90. Geneva: WHO. 1995. ISBN 92-4-157173X.

Tetrabromobisphenol A and Derivatives. Environmental Health Criteria No. 172. WHO. Pp. 139. Sw.fr.22. Geneva: WHO. 1995. ISBN 92-4-157172-1.

Notices

MASA Natal Inland Branch Office Bearers

At the Natal Inland Branch Annual General Meeting, held on 14 February 1996, the following office bearers were elected:

President	Dr K. Reddi
Hon Secretary	Dr E. Gilbert
Hon Treasurer	Dr J. Blitz
Vice-President And Immediate Past-President	Dr N. A. Clifton
President-Elect	Dr J. Blitz
Clinical Secretary	Dr H. V. King
Newsletter Editor	Dr R. I. Caldwell
Branch Councillors	Dr M. M. E. Baig Dr M. C. Bigalke Dr J. Dunton Dr W. E. N. Hall Dr M. I. Moola Dr R. Rencken
Edendale Hospital Rep.	Dr J. Pattison Bacon
Judasa Rep.	Dr R. Green Thompson
Provincial Executive	Dr A. Nhlanhla
Federal Councillors	Drs P. J. Duys and M. J. Redfern
Ward System Federal Councillors	Not yet elected