

# Boekbesprekings/Book Reviews

## Immunoparasitology

**Immunoparasitology: Principles and Methods in Malaria and Schistosomiasis Research.** Ed. by G. T. Strickland and K. W. Hunter. Pp. 294. Illustrated. £29,75. London: Praeger. 1982.

In 1980 a number of parasitologists in the vicinity of Washington, D.C., met to form an elite group of 'immunoparasitologists'. Within 2 years this very active group was able to organize a 6-week course on immunological aspects of malaria and schistosomiasis research. This volume is a collection of 27 of the reviews and methodological lectures presented at the workshop. The result is a valuable survey which is largely a practical text with enough details for the

techniques to be copied. Each chapter includes numerous references to original work, which not only indicates the strides being made, but also that this book will soon be obsolescent. A random selection of the subjects discussed includes the immunoprophylaxis and immunopathology of malaria, the detection of malaria antibodies and antigens, and the immunoprophylaxis and serodiagnosis of schistosomiasis. Practical articles cover the production of antimalarial monoclonal antibodies, the isolation and purification of schistosome surface antigens and the cryopreservation of cercariae.

This book constitutes an excellent and stimulating introduction to a fascinating area of parasitological research.

**P. J. Fripp**

## Clinical neuro-ophthalmology

**Walsh and Hoyt's Clinical Neuro-Ophthalmology**, vol. 1. By Neil R. Miller. Pp. xii + 381. Illustrated. R66,-. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins. 1982.

Neuro-ophthalmology is a rapidly expanding specialty, and new knowledge, especially in the field of electrophysiology, is accumulating so fast that were it not for textbooks of this nature, keeping abreast of the literature would be a virtual impossibility for the busy practitioner.

Neil Miller, who is associate professor of ophthalmology, neurology and neurosurgery at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, has succeeded handsomely in his revision of the 4th edition of *Walsh and Hoyt's Clinical Ophthalmology*. (The 3rd edition appeared almost 14 years ago, and the original edition in 1947.)

Volume 1 appears in 2 sections — the 'Visual sensory system', which covers the development, anatomy and physiology of the visual apparatus, including disorders of visual integration, and the optic nerve and its disorders, with particular emphasis on the ophthalmoscopic and angiographic appearances of the abnormal disc and their interpretations.

Illustrations are clear and profuse but would have been of greater value had they been produced in colour — a factor of great importance in diagnosis.

The text is lucid and has retained the essentially clinical nature of the original, being illustrated by case histories or quotations from the relevant literature. Each chapter has an exhaustive bibliography which is as up to date as to include articles appearing as recently as 1982. The format is typically American as each page is divided, which, although not favoured by the reviewer, does not detract from the pleasure derived from the text.

This is a thoroughly workman-like volume, easy to read, full of information and one of which the author can feel justly proud. One looks forward to the next 2 volumes of this authoritative series, and if the anticipated high standard is maintained, ophthalmic literature will be the richer. A highly recommended book for all ophthalmologists, neurologists, general physicians and neurosurgeons.

J. L. van Selm

## Urinary tract infection

**Urinary Tract Infection** (Current Topics in Infection, No. 3). By R. Maskell. Pp. viii + 144. Illustrated. R37,-. London: Edward Arnold. 1982.

Dr Rosalind Maskell's book on urinary tract infection is written in a refreshingly clear and simple fashion, is completely up to date, and stresses the pitfalls, conceptions and controversies of the subject. The author urges co-operation between urologists, physicians and gynaecologists and particularly with bacteriologists, who can clearly play a pivotal role in the diagnosis and management of such patients. The book is adequately indexed, excellently referenced, and consists of 10 chapters.

Of particular interest to the general practitioner and indeed to all doctors are the chapters on the pathogenesis and bacteriology of upper and lower urinary tract infections, on the collection of urine specimens, and newer techniques which show that so-called 'abacterial' infections may be caused by organisms such as chlamydiae, gardnerella or fastidious anaerobes. There are also excellent chapters on the clinical diagnosis and management of pyelonephritis in children and adults, and on problems encountered in hospital-acquired infections. There is also a chapter on urinary tract infections in pregnancy.

This should prove to be a most useful book for students and doctors from many disciplines and, although written by a bacteriologist, it maintains an excellent balance between clinical and laboratory skills.

A. M. Meyers

## Health problems in medical practice

**Common Health Problems in Medical Practice**. By E. Scott Medley. Pp. xvi + 343. Illustrated. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins. 1982.

Aimed primarily at the family practitioner, this book adopts an interesting and practical format by being written in chronological order from birth to death, and outdoes Shakespeare by dividing human life into 9 ages rather than 7. Starting with a chapter on the newborn, it then goes on to chapters on the infant, the toddler, the preschooler, the early school years, adolescence, the adult years, middle age and the elderly. It is written in the clear, concise form common to many of the better American books on medicine, but, not surprisingly, in a book covering such a wide field, there are points with which it is possible to quarrel. Under the subheading 'Common problems in the neonate' the author states: 'the first feeding takes place in the newborn nursery while the mother is resting postpartum. This first feeding consists of glucose water'. There are many who would strongly disagree with this. Up until birth the baby has been floating in a fluid medium, and part of the adaptation to the air environment is a physiological diuresis, and it is no accident that the mother's breast secretes only colostrum for the first few days post partum while this process is taking place. Another section bristling with contentious points is the one on 'Labor and delivery' where it is stated that 'An enema may be given and the perineum shaved in preparation for the delivery. An intravenous drip may be started.' Why? Enemas merely ensure that any accidents on the delivery table will be liquid ones, and shaving increases the risk of infection rather than decreasing it. And why put up a drip unnecessarily? It merely adds to the mother's discomfort and restricts her mobility at a time when gravity should be helping the first stage. These are the sort of ritualistic procedures which give hospital obstetrics a bad name among the general public, as are statements like 'An episiotomy is almost always necessary in primigravidas and in many multigravidas. In this country a midline episiotomy is most commonly used.' If an episiotomy is necessary at all, which is questionable in most cases, then it should be posterolateral, as a midline cut is simply asking for an extension at least into the sphincter ani. I would also disagree with previous caesarean section being regarded as an automatic indication for a further caesarean.

Apart from the points described, in general the book is well written and eminently practical, and is a useful volume for the family practitioner.

## Endocrine pathology

**Endocrine Pathology: General and Surgical**. 2nd ed. Ed. by J. M. B. Bloodworth jun. Pp. xii + 895. Illustrated. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins. 1982.

This, the 2nd edition of Bloodworth's authoritative work, has appeared after an interval of 14 years and represents an enlarged and improved version of the original publication. Reading through the list of the 29 contributors is rather like perusing a *Who's Who* of endocrinology, and this is reflected in the high quality of the text. Photographs are numerous and of excellent quality. Vast strides have recently been made in the study of endocrine pathology, and this necessitated the inclusion of a very extensive bibliography, with references as recent as 1980. Much recent information regarding the APUD system, neuro-endocrinology and gut hormones has been introduced.

This book delves far deeper into the surgical pathology and ultrastructural characteristics of the various disorders than did the 1st edition, but still stresses the interdependence of clinician, biochemist and pathologist in the diagnosis of endocrine disease. In certain chapters controversy is avoided and many questions remain unanswered. Despite this, the book remains the best reference work available at present and will prove invaluable to clinical endocrinologists and morbid anatomists alike.

B. D. Middlecote

## Experimental haematology

**Experimental Hematology Today, 1982.** Ed. by S. J. Baum, D. D. Ledney and S. Thierfelder. Pp. xx + 266. Illustrated. DM 237,-. Basle: S. Karger. 1982.

Thirty years ago Egon Lorenz and his associates reported the first successful bone marrow transplantation experiment. This volume commemorates not only his 90th birthday but also the culmination of many scientific achievements, particularly in the last decade. Each of the parts in the monograph summarizes an important advance in haematopoiesis. Attention is given to the regulatory glycoproteins produced by stromal cells, the role of lymphokines, and the essential balance achieved between stimulation and inhibition of granulopoiesis *in vitro* and *in vivo*. The section dealing with erythropoiesis outlines techniques for the isolation of stem cells, using combinations of centrifugal elutriation and Percoll-gradient centrifugation. The current status of lymphocyte proliferation is reviewed by presenting the current status of colony formation and the use of flow cytometry after mitogenic or allogeneic stimulation to identify proliferating and non-proliferating compartments. Of note has been the application of the same technique to an analysis of early activation events in the mixed lymphocyte reaction.

Experimental bone marrow transplantation provides an important model for the study of graft-versus-host disease, both in exploring its pathogenesis and in therapy with monoclonal antibodies and immunosuppressive drugs, of which cyclosporin A and methotrexate are of special interest. A section devoted to clinical transplantation places in perspective the role of allogeneic grafting in patients with leukaemia and summarizes the effects that can be achieved with a variety of monoclonal antibodies for suppression of graft-versus-host disease.

Informative sections describe the characterization of cell membrane receptors and their possible role in graft-versus-host disease, and examine the possibility that they may be of importance in attempts to reduce differentiation in human leukaemic cells. Haematopoietic cell lines are reviewed since they provide the models for defining the effect of leukaemia viruses on haematopoiesis and also a practical way to explore a role for natural killer cell activity in the pathogenesis of graft-versus-host reactivity. A recently added section of note is the whole question of radiation haematology; 4 papers deal with the current status of both low-dose and low-level radiation on the haematopoietic system in experimental animals.

As in previous volumes in the series, the papers selected are topical and often controversial. Each is written by an investigator active in the field, and they illustrate both recent advances in our understanding of haematopoietic physiology and the way in which experimental haematologists are approaching new concepts underlying the pathophysiology of disturbed blood formation. The papers make sound reading and for those with an interest in this field provide a concise summary of the more important changes that took place during 1982.

P. Jacobs

## Alcoholism — medical disorders

**Medical Disorders of Alcoholism: Pathogenesis and Treatment** (Major Problems in International Medicine, vol. XXII). By C. S. Lieber. Pp. xvii + 589. Illustrated. ± R108,-. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders. 1982.

This outstanding monograph provides the reader with a meticulously referenced, up-to-date review of the metabolism of alcohol and its effects and the effects of alcoholic liver disease on the endocrine system, intermediary metabolism, lipid metabolism and amino acid and protein metabolism. Additional chapters are devoted to the interaction of ethanol and drug metabolism and deal with the effects of alcohol on the liver, the haematological system, the digestive tract, the pancreas, the heart, skeletal and smooth muscles and the brain.

Although there are fifteen contributors, an even standard is maintained throughout. This book must serve as the last word on the subject and should be on the shelf of every medical library.

R. Kirsch

## Breast cancer

**Breast Cancer** (Clinics in Oncology, No. 1, vol. 3). Guest ed. M. Baum. Pp. vii + 647 + 955. Illustrated. R11,75. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders. 1982.

The outstanding characteristic of this compact volume on breast cancer is the perspective which is provided into all the complex and controversial facets of this disease. Each of the 13 expertly presented chapters is a model of clarity reflecting changes in our understanding of the aetiology, pathology, molecular biology and management of breast cancer. In particular I would single out the chapter on hormone receptors in breast cancer, with 350 references, as a superb presentation of the current state of the science of steroid receptors and their application to clinical medicine. In the absence of any evidence that breast cancer is preventable, the universal drive towards earlier diagnosis is one approach which might increase the cure rate. The risk factors involved in the development of breast cancer, the results of screening programmes, the technique for diagnostic imaging and the establishment of the diagnosis are authoritatively and concisely presented. The trend towards conservative surgery in the management of breast cancer is highlighted in the relevant chapter, and the wider use of radiation therapy in the management of primary breast cancer is foreshadowed in the chapter dealing with this modality of treatment, which fits in well with what we can learn from the increasing number of investigations into the psychosocial aspects of this disease and the effects of treatment on the patients, an aspect which is well reviewed in the 8th chapter.

The only other hope for increasing the cure rate in this disease at present lies in the earlier use of systemic therapy. A penetrating analysis of the information gleaned from a number of reported trials of adjuvant therapy is presented in the 11th chapter. The editor's view about the lack of firm conclusions that can be drawn with regard to the role of adjuvant therapy of any form at present must surely be correct.

The treatment of advanced disease and the future prospects for treatment complete this excellent and remarkably inexpensive publication. It should be read by everyone concerned with the management of breast cancer.

M. Lange

## Medical parasitology

**Handbook of Medical Parasitology.** By Viqar Zaman and Loh Ah Keong. Pp. viii + 218. Illustrated. £17,-. New York: ADIS Health Science Press. 1982.

This book is based on the senior author's *Atlas of Medical Parasitology* which has now been expanded by the addition of extra line-drawings and text. Unfortunately the photographs are black and white reproductions of prints which were originally in colour, and consequently they often lack contrast and in some cases are difficult to interpret. The line-drawings, however, are clear and not over-elaborate and include diagrams of life-cycles, distribution maps and morphological features. The text is factual and systematically arranged around the phylogeny of the various parasitic species, each being considered under the aspects of distribution, morphology, life-cycle, clinical aspects, diagnosis and treatment. A useful glossary precedes each section, and there is a chapter on basic diagnostic techniques.

Although there are a number of spelling mistakes (for example, 'preceroid' for 'proceroid' and 'filiarisis' for 'filarisis'), and although some authorities will take issue with some of the statements (e.g. that lucanthone, the first of the non-antimonial schistosomicides, was probably last used about 15 years ago), these factors do not greatly detract from the value of this quick-reference book. It is, however, a pity that its high price will prevent its purchase by those for whom it is intended. It will no doubt prove to be a popular book in medical school libraries as both undergraduates and postgraduates will find it helpful in their studies.

P. J. Fripp

# Epidemiologiese Gegewens/Epidemiological Data

## Departement van Gesondheid: Verslag van aanmeldbare mediese toestande / Department of Health: Report of notifiable medical conditions

MONTHLY REPORT SUPPLIED BY COURTESY  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND  
WELFARE

NOTIFIABLE MEDICAL CONDITIONS

TABLE 1 : NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS BY CONDITION AND REGION / BLACK NATIONAL STATES.

REPORTING PERIOD : JANUARY TO MARCH 1983

CODE	CONDITION NAME	REGIONS				TVL.			BLACK NATIONAL STATES				INDEPENDANT				GRAND TOTAL				
		HEALTH CAPE EAST	REGION CAPE WEST	OF RSA CAPE NORTH	OF NATAL	TVL. OFS	TVL. SOUTH	TVL. NORTH	TOTAL	SELF-GOVERNING KULU	GAZAN	KWA ZULU	KWA LEBO WA	QWA QWA	KAN BOPHU THAT SWANA	CIS KEI		TRAN SKEI	VENDA		
001	CHOLERA	8	0	0	383	0	38	15	444	0	0	528	1	0	35	0	0	0	564	1008	
032	DIPHTHERIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
030	LEPROSY	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	
084	MALARIA	1	2	0	14	1	16	85	119	13	1	3	4	0	19	0	0	20	60	179	
055	MEASLES	326	83	75	115	17	81	42	739	0	29	55	32	0	0	76	7	0	16	215	954
036	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION	5	18	7	-	0	3	1	35	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	39	
045	POLIOMYELITIS	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	0	9	11	
037	TETANUS	1	1	0	1	0	1	3	7	0	1	3	1	0	1	0	0	2	8	15	
011	TB PULMONARY	665	898	351	528	300	1177	114	4033	0	28	277	28	0	84	192	162	88	12	871	4904
013	TB OF MENINGES	2	3	2	1	3	10	1	22	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	4	26
010-8	TB TOTAL	694	1048	367	533	309	1214	116	4281	0	28	281	28	0	87	192	165	94	14	889	5170
0020	TYPHOID	8	6	2	55	0	33	65	169	0	95	34	1	0	112	10	4	0	63	319	488
0701	VIRAL HEP TYPE A	0	10	0	1	0	1	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
0703	VIRAL HEP TYPE B	1	7	0	1	0	1	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	17
0705	VIRAL HEP TYPE NON A + B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0709	VIRAL HEP UNSPEC	5	27	3	21	3	44	3	106	0	1	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	17	123
070	VIRAL HEP TOTAL	6	44	3	23	3	46	3	128	0	1	6	0	0	8	0	0	0	9	24	152
TOTAL		1049	1202	455	1127	332	1433	331	5929	13	155	917	70	0	266	278	176	94	124	2093	8022

CUMULATIVE ANNUAL TOTAL OF DISEASES OF LOW FREQUENCY

022	ANTHRAX	0	073	PSITTACOSIS	0
023	BRUCELLOSIS	2	071	RABIES (HUMAN CONTACTS)	19
061	HAEMORRHAGIC FEVERS	0	066	RIFT VALLEY FEVER	0
866E	LEAD POISONING	0	050	SMALLPOX	0
100	LEPTOSPIROSIS	0	130	TOXOPLASMOSIS	0
0021	PARATYPHOID FEVER	0	076	TRACHOMA	5
020	PLAGUE	0	086	TRYPANOSOMIASIS	0
863E	POISONING AGRIC, STOCK REMEDIES	10	080	TYPHUS FEVER LICE	0
1626	PRIMARY MALIGNANCY OF BRONCHUS	27	081	TYPHUS FEVER RATFLEA	0
1627	PRIMARY MALIGNANCY OF LUNG	13	060	YELLOW FEVER	0
163	PRIMARY MALIGNANCY OF PLEURA	1			

ALL STATISTICS ARE SUBJECT TO UPDATING AND REFLECT AVAILABLE INFORMATION AS AT RUN DATE (11/03/83)

REPORTING PERIOD : JANUARY TO MARCH 1983

CODE	CONDITION NAME	MONTHS												TOTAL	
		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC		
001	CHOLERA	892	116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1008
032	DIPHTHERIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
030	LEPROSY	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
084	MALARIA	119	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	179
055	MEASLES	817	137	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	954
036	MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION	31	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
045	POLIOMYELITIS	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
037	TETANUS	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
011	TB PULMONARY	4013	891	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4904
013	TB OF MENINGES	20	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
010-8	TB ALL FORMS	4237	933	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5170
0020	TYPHOID	300	188	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	488
0701	VIRAL HEP TYPE A	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
0703	VIRAL HEP TYPE B	13	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
0705	VIRAL HEP TYPE NON A + B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0709	VIRAL HEP UNSPEC	97	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	123
070	VIRAL HEP TOTAL	121	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152
TOTAL		6540	1482	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8022

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