of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome in the skin or in the optic fundi. On page 229 the protozoal infection toxoplasmosis has been inadvertently included in the list of viruses causing acute hepatitis. There is no mention of the magnitude and significance of drug compliance problems other than their contributing to adverse drug reaction. In the diagnosis of subdural haematoma the difficulties of CT scan interpretation when there are relatively iso-dense, bilateral, subdural haematomata are not described. Several of the black and white photographs in the dermatological section which are not very clear could be replaced by a single page of coloured photographs of reduced size in future editions.

The index is well stocked and there are good cross-references but I note that calcinosis and cerebral lupus have been omitted and the latter deserves to be listed in the table of causes of dementia. This comprehensive textbook is a new and welcome approach to the teaching of medicine for both under- and postgraduates of all ages. It is stimulating and readable, clear and concise and packed with information. At the price, this well bound volume in soft covers is very good value and I look forward to further editions.

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A Colour Atlas of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, by K.F.R. Schiller, Roy Cockel, R.H. Hunt, B. Sterry Ashby and G.W. Stevenson. Pp. 240, illustrated. Chapman & Hall, London, 1987. £65.

This is an excellent colour atlas of lesions found at endoscopy. It deals with the upper gastrointestinal tract, choledochoscopy, colonoscopy and endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography. The atlas is superbly illustrated with high quality photographs – a remarkable dearth of broken fibres! Although this sets out to be an atlas of different lesions a brief text describes both the techniques involved and the photographs displayed. Where there is any doubt about clarity of the photographs lined drawings are made so as to clarify the situation. Unfortunately these drawings seldom have arrows pointing to particular aspects of interest, but none-the-less they do clarify the picture. The book is also well illustrated with radiographs which were largely provided by Professor Giles Stevenson from McMaster.

The first chapter starts with the normal appearance of the upper gastrointestinal tract, including a picture of the carina which is of excellent quality – I hope the authors have not seen this too often! The chapter then proceeds to the great variety of lesions that might be seen with excellent quality illustrations of all the common findings and a good number of rarities. Inevitably experienced endoscopists will have their own particular views and will perhaps quibble with some of the points made. For example on page 16 insufficient stress in my view is laid

upon the importance of getting the patient to breath in deeply when testing for a hiatus hernia. The section on duodenitis which is a controversial subject is perhaps weaker than it should be, and the description of the stigmata of gastrointestinal haemorrhage in particular distinguishing between visible vessels and red spots is not as clear as it could be. The therapeutic techniques are well described with illustrations including dilatation, pneumatic dilatation, sphincterotomy and polypectomy and at the end of the book there is a brief chapter on the method of obtaining good quality photographs. There is a limited bibliography and a good index.

Every reviewer will look for the deliberate mistake. So I was pleased to find the olives used for oesophageal dilatation laid out in the wrong order, but was this the deliberate mistake? When I came to page 157 I discovered another, or was it an error? Clearly endoscopic sphincterotomy can be made very much more exciting than most of us experience. We are told that during the procedure 'the position is adjusted until about half of the wife is exposed'. I looked in vain for an illustration of this point!

This is an excellent book with all the major lesions admirably illustrated so that any unit involved in endoscopy training should have this atlas available. It can be most strongly recommended and without reservation.

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Diagnostic Features of Disease, edited by F. Dudley Hart. Pp. ix+220, illustrated. Wright, Bristol, 1987. £6.95 (paperback).

Diagnostic Features of Disease turns out to be a 'Look and Say' pictorial quiz based on a selection of illustrations from French's *Index of Differential Diagnosis*. From the publishers point of view it makes good sense to use this treasure trove. The idea is to make a spot diagnosis – or at other times to be told the diagnosis – and then answer multiple-choice type questions. This, nowadays, is a popular and entertaining way of imparting knowledge and of relevance in that 'projected material' of this kind features in a number of exams. Surgical, medical and paediatric conditions are shown either as local, or whole body photographs, or as surgical specimens, radiographs EGGs or blood films. The reproductions are good and many are in colour. Some choices are rather rare but striking; in general the mix is good, but rheumatology is favoured. There are four pictures on gout whereas muscle and neurological conditions are virtually absent.

There are 150 questions to whet ones appetite. Generalists, medical students and candidates for PLAB should sharpen their clinical skills for observations by having the book, but there are better and more suitable comprehensive atlases for those taking specialist higher examinations.

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