
Books received


New Editions


Book reviews

New Concepts in Gynaecological Oncology
A Hahne mann Symposium

Knowledge of gynaecological malignancy is increasing rapidly. Most pelvic structures are easily palpable and many visible, and a tumour in this site can be directly observed throughout treatment. These features aid workers in this field and progress has been achieved. The patient is more alert to genital cancer and has faith in her gynaecologist that, if treated early, she has every hope of a cure. The clinician should be aware of the recent advances so that her faith is not misplaced.

The book brings together world authorities to review the state of knowledge at present. There are forty-nine short chapters each dealing with a specific problem such as 'The epidemiology of cancer of the cervix', 'The significance of endometrial hyperplasia', and 'Surgical treatment of recurrent endometrial carcinoma'. These chapter headings are chosen to indicate the breadth of the field covered; clinician, pathologist and basic scientist will find their experience in the subject supplemented by these reports.

Some topics are dealt with as a review of recent advances but most are descriptions of the author's own work in the field. None of the articles is complacent. There is a strong plea for specialist units to deal with malignancy; this is perhaps more pertinent to American than British gynaecology. The chapters discussing the relative merits of radiotherapy and surgery are not able to report conclusively because more clinical trials are needed. In these ways the authors stimulate as well as inform. It can act as a reference book for all interested in gynaecological malignancy, but as with any account of recent progress its value is greater today than tomorrow.

Research in Burns

This book consists of the papers read at the Second International Congress on Research in Burns held in Edinburgh in September 1965. It includes a symposium on infection and another on the design of burns units, as well as a record of a public meeting on preventive aspects of the burn problem.

The papers cover the whole range of burn injury including the causes, the early and late treatment, metabolic responses, local and general treatment and the causes of failure and death. Some of the work is clinical, some basic research and, as is inevitable in a congress such as this, the quality of the papers varies enormously. Many of the papers contain work which is not new, the authors having produced a review of their previous work. As such this book serves as a source of reference for all those workers from many disciplines who have an interest in burns. Its value, however, would have been enhanced if it had included an index, the absence of which is a major defect shared by the records of other international congresses and symposia.