Postgraduate Medical Journal

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Postgraduate Medical Journal publishes original papers on subjects of current clinical importance and welcomes review articles with extensive, up-to-date bibliographies as guides to further reading. Several symposia are published every year, each devoted to a single subject and written, by invitation, by specialists in different disciplines. Most issues include authoritative Current Surveys of clinical problems, as well as well-documented Reports of cases of particular interest, Correspondence and Book Reviews.

A 'Notice to Contributors' is published on the inside back cover of this issue. The Editor reserves the right to make changes which may clarify or condense papers where this is considered desirable.

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The Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine was founded by a group of London consultants after the First World War to assist postgraduates, particularly those coming to London from the Commonwealth, to pursue their studies. The Fellowship first published the Postgraduate Medical Journal to give information about lectures, conferences and courses and to provide a monthly review of all branches of medicine.
Marital breakdown

A symposium held at Central Middlesex Hospital, Park Royal, London, N.W.10, on Wednesday, 8 March 1972
Editors Dr J. R. MIKHAIL and Dr J. DOMINIAN

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The symposium was organized by the Department of Postgraduate Studies, Central Middlesex Hospital and sponsored by Roche Products Ltd.
Books received


New Editions


Book reviews

Congenital Deformities of the Testis and Epididymis

This small but comprehensive monograph is the distillate of the work and publications on this subject which have emanated from The Hillingdon Hospital over many years. It contains nothing new or controversial but provides a sensible practical guide to the management essentially of malestase of the testis, a subject of great importance commonly encountered in the work of every general and urological surgeon, and more so of general practitioners attending school clinics. It offers an authoritative guide to treatment and prognosis which is much needed.

Intrauterine Devices

The author of this paperback on intrauterine devices, Dr Clive Wood, is an expert in this field of contraception. In this book, he deals with a form of contraception, the intrauterine device, which even now has not been given the popularity it deserves among the lay public. The author goes through the history of the device, its possible mode of action and its side effects and failure rate. By including an appendix of medical terms, the book not only caters for the medical doctor, but also for the lay reader and paramedical personnel such as welfare workers and marriage guidance counsellors.

The Cobalamin

This account of the Glaxo symposium of September 1970 is a succinct but detailed analysis of several of the problems of vitamin B12 metabolism.

Several of the chapters are of little help to the practising clinical haematologist, but they are nevertheless very interesting as an insight into the problems facing the research workers in a very complicated metabolic problem.

Chapters on vitamin B12 and folic acid in brain metabolism, in neurological diseases and therapeutic response to large oral doses of cobalamin are of great interest and the discussion on anaemia and subacute combined degeneration in B12 deficiency suggest, at last, an answer to that problem.

The account of a case of sensitivity to vitamin B12 recalls previous experience in the days when liver extracts were used. All in all, a well produced and easily read book on a complex and rapidly advancing series of problems.
Typescripts (two complete copies) should be sent to the Editor, Dr A. A. G. Lewis, Postgraduate Medical Journal, 9 Great James Street, London, W.C.1. Papers should be typewritten on one side of the paper only, with a 1 ½ inch margin, and the lines should be double-spaced. In addition to the title of the paper there should be a 'running title' (for page headings) of not more than 45 letters (including spaces). The paper should bear the name of the author(s) with their degrees and descriptions and of the laboratory or research institute where the work has been carried out. The full postal address of the principal author should be given as a footnote. (The proofs will be sent to this author and address unless otherwise indicated.)

Arrangement. Papers should normally be divided into: (a) Summary, brief, self-contained and embodying the main conclusions; (b) Introduction; (c) Materials and methods; (d) Results, as concise as possible (both tables and figures illustrating the same data will rarely be permitted); (e) Discussion and conclusion; (f) Acknowledgments; (g) References.

References. Only papers closely related to the author's work should be included, exhaustive lists should be avoided. References should be made by giving the author's surname, with the year of publication in parentheses. When reference is made to a work by three authors all names should be given when cited for the first time, and thereafter only the first name, adding et al., e.g. Smith et al. (1958). The 'et al.' form should always be used for works by four or more authors. If several papers by the same author and from the same year are cited, a, b, c, etc., should be put after the year of publication, e.g. Smith et al. (1958a). All references should be brought together at the end of the paper in alphabetical order. References to articles and papers should mention (a) name(s) of the author(s); (b) year of publication in parentheses; (c) title of paper; (d) title of journal in full, underlined; (e) volume number; number of first page of article. References to books and monographs should include (a) name(s) and initials of author(s) or editor(s); year of publication in parentheses; (b) title, underlined; (c) edition; (d) page referred to; (e) publisher; (f) place.

Standard usage. The Concise Oxford English Dictionary is used as a reference for all spelling and hyphenation. Verbs which contain the suffix ize (ise) and their derivatives should be spelt with the z. Statistics and measurements should always be given in figures, i.e. 10 min, 20 hr, 5 ml, except where the number begins the sentence. When the number does not refer to a unit of measurement, it is spelt out except where the number is greater than one hundred.

Abbreviations. Abbreviations for some of the commoner units are given below. The abbreviation for the plural of a unit is the same as that for the singular unless confusion is likely to arise.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Example</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gram(s)</td>
<td>g</td>
<td>500 g</td>
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<tr>
<td>kilogram(s)</td>
<td>kg</td>
<td>2 kg</td>
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<td>milligram(s)</td>
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<td>10 µg</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1 kpg</td>
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Example: mg/100 ml, for biochemical values; mEq/1

Figures. In the text these should be given Arabic numbers, e.g. Fig. 3. They should be marked on the backs with the name(s) of the author(s) and the title of the paper. Where there is any possible doubt as to the orientation of a figure the top should be marked with an arrow. Each figure must bear a reference corresponding to a similar number in the text. Photographs and photomicrographs should be unmounted glossy prints and should not be retouched. Line diagrams should be on separate sheets; they should be drawn with black Indian ink on white paper and should be about four times the area of the final reproduction. Lines and lettering should be of sufficient thickness and size to stand reduction to one-half or one-third. Letters and numbers must be written lightly in pencil. Whenever possible, the originals of line diagrams, prepared as described above, should be submitted and not photographs. The legends of all the figures should be typed together on a single sheet of paper headed 'Legends to Figures'.

Tables. There should be as few tables as possible and these should include only essential data; the data should not be crowded together. The main heading should be in capitals with an Arabic number, e.g. TABLE 2. Each table must have a caption in small letters. Vertical lines should not be used.

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