

The main body of the book then addresses itself to answering specific diagnostic questions, with chapter titles such as 'Is it a carcinoma or a sarcoma?', 'Is it a melanoma?', 'Differential diagnosis of Ewing's tumour, neuroblastoma and lymphoma'. Other topics considered are apudomas, eosinophilic granular cell tumours, sarcomas and acute leukaemias: problems which are often unresolvable by light microscopy alone. For each problem the ultrastructural features that may be diagnostic are discussed in well documented detail, with critical assessment of published data where appropriate. Throughout, though, due caution is urged against over-interpretation of appearances, and clear criteria are given for diagnosis, notably in the chapter on myosarcomas (a discussion of intra-cytoplasmic filaments).

The last section describes a miscellany of rare tumours with distinctive ultrastructural appearances, and here the book becomes more of an atlas of tumour ultrastructure, reflecting the author's enthusiasm for his subject (few of us will ever see a juxtaglomerular cell tumour). Nonetheless, the electron micrographs here, as in the rest of the book, are of excellent quality, and go a long way towards justifying the high price.

Each chapter is written in a clear, sensible style, stressing the practical aspects of the subject, and is well referenced, with an emphasis on the author's own work. On the whole the topics considered are well covered, and there is sufficient detail for the histopathologists and pathology trainees for whom this book is intended, although more detailed accounts would have been useful for electron microscopists. However, the differential diagnosis of lymphomas could be considered in more detail—this subject is dismissed briefly, with little reference to the English literature. In the chapter on leukaemias, although the author has succumbed to the temptation to include rarities there is surprisingly no illustration of hairy cell leukaemia. A minor criticism is the rather large number of trivial misprints. Overall, though, the book is recommended as a useful one to have in any diagnostic surgical pathology laboratory with an electron microscope.

#### Haemodynamic Basis of Atherosclerosis.

By MEYER TEXON. Pp. xxi + 95, illustrated. Hemisphere Publishing Corporation, Washington, New York and London, 1980. £24.95.

The clinical problems resulting from atherosclerosis are of extreme major importance in clinical practice nowadays. This book presents a singular view point on the haemodynamic basis of atherosclerosis. Dr Meyer Texon takes a provocative stance on the subject regarding the aetiology of atherosclerosis, hypothesizing that the process is dependent on the laws of fluid dynamics rather than any abnormality of dietary intake or blood constituent. The author, in a clear manner of presentation, utilizing mathematical analyses and over 100 colour illustrations from his animal experiments and other research projects, develops his hypothesis that atherosclerosis is a haemodynamic phenomenon. The author develops his thesis in an extremely scientific fashion which is pleasing to the scientist in the field of fluid dynamics or to the specialist in cardiac disease and atherosclerosis, but is perhaps a little too complex for the general physician or student fully to understand or enjoy. There are adequate references at the end of each chapter with a full bibliography of the text and, if anything, the number of plates of his scientific experiments are perhaps a little unwieldy to the general discussion in the text. His basic thesis is that atherosclerosis may be considered a reactive biological process in the arteries to the forces generated by the blood flow. Therefore, atherosclerosis cannot be cured in the sense of curing an infectious disease or by alteration in dietary intake or a blood constituent and can only be controlled by a modification of blood velocity. This provocative view point has been well presented and should be

essential reading to all those who are intimately involved in this major clinical problem. The basic fluid dynamics presented would be important reading for anybody involved in vascular surgery, and particularly coronary artery surgery, since the principles are most important in order to obtain satisfactory clinical results. This book is presented in an extremely interesting literary style with adequate illustrations to convey the more complex fluid dynamic principles and can be strongly recommended to all those who are involved in the problem of atherosclerosis.

#### Health Service Counselling.

By WILLIAM STEWART. Pp. 175. Pitman Medical, London, 1979. £4.95 (paperback).

The author has addressed this book to those already employed in a counselling capacity within the health services and those who would like to incorporate counselling skills in their role in management, teaching or patient care. The simple and clear, if sometimes repetitious text invites the interested student to consider the principles of counselling and encourages him to seek some training in the field.

The opening section of this book deals with the process of counselling and its relevance to improving staff relationships. It examines ways of reducing personal and organizational stress through increased, effective communication. The author then tackles the difficult description of what constitutes counselling, and what does not.

The middle section considers an approach to the counselling interview and its exploration of problems. Finally, sample interviews and case studies are presented with an informative, analytical annotation.

This readable book would be well suited as an elementary introduction to the student of counselling.

#### Lecture Notes on Gynaecology.

By JOSEPHINE BARNES, 4th edn. Pp. 219, illustrated. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, 1980. £4.75 (paperback).

With an increased emphasis on Multiple Choice Questions, short and concise text books like *Lecture Notes on Gynaecology* have become increasingly popular, both in helping the student establish a framework in the subject and to assist in revision before examinations. The authoress, a Senior Consultant at Charing Cross Hospital and an Examiner for London and Oxford Universities has admirably succeeded in producing an up-to-date fourth edition of a very readable text book. This reviewer made a short list of topics that he felt should be covered in a new edition and found he had to cross them off one by one. The chapters on contraception and sterilization, and gynaecological endocrinology were full of fact and wise counsel. He would have liked more space devoted to therapeutic abortion, the management of the menopause and colposcopy.

The use of carbon dioxide for tubal patency and vaginal cytology for determination of hormonal status are no longer so relevant.

In a book as concise as this it would be worth-while having a list of general and specialist references at the end.

This book is very suitable for undergraduates taking their Final examinations and for nurses who wish to gain more medical insight into this speciality. Both will find the book accurate and enjoyable to read and marketed at a very reasonable price.

#### Lipids: A Clinician's Guide.

By L. A. SIMONS AND J. C. GIBSON. Pp. x + 84, illustrated. MTP Press, Lancaster, 1980. £7.50.

This book contains adequate information for the busy clinician or general practitioner who wishes to be better informed on the subject of lipids and lipoproteins with special reference



## Lecture Notes on Gynaecology

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