book will not be of any value afterwards. Part I M.R.C.P. students would also do well to spend a few hours perusing the contents of this book.

N. PARKER
Whittington Hospital, London.

Pancreatic Cancer

This is the résumé of a workshop on pancreatic cancer sponsored by the International Union Against Cancer, bringing together a small group of international experts. The scene is set with a chapter on epidemiology, reflecting the increasing mortality in advanced countries, and the paucity of our understanding of the reasons for this epidemic. This is followed by a review of the pathology of non-endocrine tumours, based on a personal series of 645 patients. The authors emphasize the important prognostic differences between different cell types and sites of origin. The chapter on endocrine tumours is brief and authoritative but does not cover diagnostic aspects in detail.

Chapters on carcinogenesis, animal models, the biology of tumour cells, and the effects of diet on the exocrine pancreas give a broad over-view of present experimental research, without providing much hope for a sudden breakthrough in understanding. Likewise, the survey of pancreatic tumour markers might be depressing if the goals were not so tantalizing.

For the clinician, the chapter on prognosis and the results of treatment must be profoundly depressing—but leads reasonably into some guidelines for 'better co-ordinated, more productive and co-operative research effort on an international basis'.

This is a short and valuable source document for all those interested in the subject of pancreatic cancer. Individual contributions are well written and edited, and are accompanied by more than 400 references.

P. B. COTTON
The Middlesex Hospital, London.

Problems in Geriatric Medicine

There is now a significant range of texts on geriatric medicine, from books for undergraduates through to comprehensive tomes; this text book is one of a series designed to help general practitioners and is attractively produced. The vascular system is obviously of interest to the author and the relevant chapters are capably presented; the chapter on incontinence by Roger Briggs is also well done. The question of balance in such a wide ranging book, however, has clearly caused problems; there are nine pages on heart block and two on diabetes; Lenègre's syndrome gets a mention while the clinical features of depression get sixteen
Problems in Geriatric Medicine

R. V. Boyd

Postgrad Med J 1982 58: 196
doi: 10.1136/pgmj.58.677.196-a

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://pmj.bmj.com/content/58/677/196.2.citation

These include:

Email alerting service
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

Notes

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/