aetiology, diagnosis, natural history and treatment and many publications have arisen from this research.

This book which is written by a group of international authors mainly working in Italy and the United States is based on a symposium in Milan in 1984 on schizophrenia and, as the title suggests, attempts to present an integrated view of schizophrenia. It is divided into four sections – cultural and social aspects; the psychic milieu; biological aspects; and integrative strategies for treatment. Each section contains a number of chapters or papers on different areas.

Many of the papers are based on research while others are reviews and personal perspectives. They are of variable quality and appeal, with the latter perhaps depending in the reader. I found the print awkward to follow especially the habit of splitting words at the end of a line. Given its professed attempt to integrate different aspects of schizophrenia an index would have been helpful.

I have reservations as to whether its focus is too generalized for specialists in the field while not being authoritative enough for general psychiatrists. I suspect that its main place of rest in this country will be on the library shelves of medical and psychiatric institutions.

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Upper Extremity Replantation: Basic Principles, Surgical Technique, and Strategy. Viktor E. Meyer. Pp.ix + 121, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, New York, Edinburgh, London, Melbourne, 1985. £39.00.

It is almost 25 years since the first reattachment of an amputated arm by Malt in Boston. Such events are no longer newsworthy; advances in microsurgical technique have made it possible to reattach most amputated parts of the upper limb, so this book provides a timely review of the subject. It is based on experience of over 160 replantations at the author's unit in Zurich. It begins with a discussion of the organization of equipment and personnel necessary for provision of a 24-hour replantation service. The second chapter covers basic microsurgical techniques, with a review of the effects of these manoeuvres on small vessels, and the teaching of microsurgery is discussed.

While the description of operative technique is mainly for those working in the field, the chapter on indications and contra-indications for replantation will interest a much wider audience. This aspect of the subject is covered in detail, with the importance of the patient's functional requirements in relation to the expected result of replantation given the emphasis it deserves. The section on surgical technique is excellent; the need for painstaking attention to detail and unlimited time comes over clearly. The principles and strategy of replantation are discussed and then the repair of each injured tissue is covered in detail. There is less information on the critical period of post-operative care and monitoring. For example, there is no mention of the risk of smoking or exposure to cold.

The text is concise and lucid. There are numerous good-quality photographs, supplemented by a series of anatomical drawings. For the small number of surgeons and trainees who reattach severed limbs, this book is essential reading. It should be in the library of every hospital where hand surgery is taught. It is too specialized for the general reader, but parts of it would interest and benefit anyone who deals with the initial care of injured patients.

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