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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 each year, each devoted to a single subject and written by specialists in different disciplines. Most issues include authoritative Current Surveys of clinical problems, and well documented Reports of cases of particular interest, 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.

The Journal is covered by *Current Contents* and *Biological Abstracts*.

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Books received

- Behavioural Science in Medicine.* By H. R. WINEFIELD and M. Y. PEAY. Pp. xiii+344. George Allen & Unwin, London and Sydney and Beaconsfield Publishers, Beaconsfield, 1980. £10.50 (paperback £5.95).
- Clinical Cardiac Radiology.* By K. JEFFERSON and S. REES (Revised by S. Rees). 2nd edn. Pp. xii+300, Illustrated. Butterworths, London and Boston, 1980. £35.00.
- Clinics in Haematology.* Vol. 9, No. 1, Feb. 1980. *Cytogenetics and Haematology.* Edited by D. G. PENINGTON. Pp. viii+224, illustrated. W. B. Saunders, London, Philadelphia and Toronto, 1980. £9.00.
- A Colour Atlas of Diabetes.* By A. BLOOM and J. IRELAND. Pp. 119, illustrated. Wolfe Medical Publications, London, 1980. £15.00.
- The Development of the Infant and Young Child. Normal and Abnormal.* By R. S. Illingworth. 7th edn. Pp. xi+320, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, London and New York, 1980. £10.00.
- Disorders of the Cervical Spine.* By EURIG JEFFREYS, with a contribution by TERENCE MCSWEENEY. Pp. 147, illustrated. Butterworths, London, Boston, Sydney, Wellington, Durban, Toronto, 1980. £25.00.
- English in the Medical Laboratory: a course for trainee medical laboratory technicians and medical students, concentrating on the written language found in textbooks and manuals.* By JOHN SWALES and PAUL FANNING. Pp. 106, £1.40; Key Pp. 30, 65p, illustrated. Nelson, Sunbury-on-Thames. 1980.
- Essentials of Neurosurgery.* By RICHARD HAYWARD. Pp. 275, illustrated. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne, 1980. £9.75 (paperback).
- Family Care of Old People.* By TIM DARTINGTON. Pp. 157. Human Horizons Series. Souvenir Press, London, 1980. £5.95 (paperback £3.95).
- Haemodynamic Basis of Atherosclerosis.* By MEYER TEXON. Pp. xxi+95, illustrated. Hemisphere Publishing Corporation, Washington, New York and London, 1980. \$24.95.
- Lecture Notes on Gynaecology.* By JOSEPHINE BARNES. 4th edn. Pp. 219, illustrated. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford, London, Edinburgh, Melbourne, 1980. £4.75 (paperback).
- Lipids: A Clinician's Guide.* By L. A. SIMONS and J. C. GIBSON. Pp. x+84, illustrated. MTP Press, Lancaster, 1980. £7.50.
- Medical Neurology.* By J. GILROY & J. S. MEYER. 3rd edn. Pp. ix+787, illustrated. Macmillan Publishing, New York; Collier Macmillan, Toronto; Baillière Tindal, London, 1980. £21.00.
- Mental Handicap Nursing and Care.* By VICTORIA SHENNAN. Pp. 208, illustrated. Human Horizons Series. Souvenir Press, London, 1980. £5.95 (paperback £3.95).
- Progress in Geriatric Day Care.* By J. C. BROCKLEHURST and J. S. TUCKER. Pp. 204. King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, London, 1980. £7.00.
- Psychiatric Illness: diagnosis, management and treatment for general practitioners and students.* By H. Merskey. 3rd edn. Pp. 434, Baillière Tindal, London, 1980. £7.50 (limp).
- Recent Advances in Gastroenterology* Vol. 4. Edited by I. A. D. BOUCHIER. Pp. ix+347, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, London and New York, 1980. £16.00.
- Rehabilitation Medicine. The Management of Physical Disabilities.* Edited by P. J. R. NICHOLS, 2nd edn. Pp. 353. Butterworths, London and Boston, 1980. £19.50.
- Renal Pathology.* By E. M. DARMADY and ANGUS G. MACIVER. Pp. 548, illustrated. Postgraduate Pathology Series. Butterworths, London, Boston, Sydney, Wellington, Durban, Toronto, 1980. £35.00.

Book reviews

Antibiotics and Chemotherapy. Current Topics

Edited by R. N. GRÜNEBERG. Current Status of Modern Therapy. Vol. 4. Pp. xi+219, illustrated. MTP Press, Lancaster, 1980. £12.95.

The continuing interest and confusion surrounding antimicrobial therapy is indicated by the publishing of yet another book on this subject. In 3 of the 8 chapters the authors have been set the task of evaluating antibiotic treatment in such areas as infective endocarditis, anaerobic infection and gonorrhoea. In each case the literature has been extensively reviewed, the reader also being provided with the author's personal preferences.

The rather contentious topics of antibiotic prophylaxis, combination therapy and prescribing policies are additionally reviewed. The respective authors point to the unsatisfactory 'state of the art' and, while emphasizing the reasons underlying the need for a rational approach, go on to lay down their individual guidelines. The editor's own views on antibiotic prescribing in his hospital are an interesting supplement to the earlier related chapter. It is perhaps somewhat ironical that, although he finds little place for recommending cephalosporin usage, the most lengthy chapter should con-

cern this group. Nevertheless, its 2 authors give a detailed review of the many marketed and some newer cephalosporins. It is disappointing, however, to find a continuing emphasis on comparisons based on *in vitro* rather than *in vivo* efficacy.

Overall, the book concentrates on clinical aspects of antibiotic therapy, and details of laboratory methods, which can be found in appropriate texts elsewhere, are only superficially discussed. The chapters are readable and written in the individual style of each author. However, the use of tables or figures in some chapters could have made their reading more enjoyable and quick reference feasible. The book should prove a useful reference source for clinicians and microbiologists alike and could be helpful to interested medical undergraduates and hospital pharmacists.

Changing Youth in a Changing Society. Patterns of Adolescent Development and Disorder

The Rock Carling Fellowship 1979. By MICHAEL RUTTER. Pp. xii+323. The Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust, London, 1979. £7.50.

This is a well presented book. Professor Rutter follows his

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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. SI units should be used wherever possible. Papers should be written in the third person.

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Postgraduate Medical Journal

VOLUME 56

NUMBER 659

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The clinical features of migraine as a manifestation of allergic disease C. W. M. WILSON, J. G. KIRKER, HECTOR WARNES AND MOIRA O'MALLEY	617
Incidence of Legionnaires' disease in a district general hospital A. R. ATKINSON, R. J. WHITE, S. K. R. CLARKE AND A. D. BLAINEY	622
Efficacy of nifedipine in the treatment of angina pectoris and chronic airways obstruction S. S. JAIPRAKASH, J. N. SAHAY, S. S. CHATTERJEE AND G. MACDONALD	624
Clinical distinction of cerebral haemorrhage and cerebral infarction M. J. G. HARRISON	629
Control of hypertension in out-patients. Experience of the Glasgow Blood Pressure Clinic J. H. JOHNSTON, A. R. LORIMER, J. C. RODGER, W. K. ROBERTSON, A. THOMAS, W. LAWRENCE AND R. FIFE	633
Serum theophylline concentrations during multiple dosing with two sustained release methylxanthine preparations in normal subjects JOHN G. PRIOR, D. BERRY AND G. M. COCHRANE	638
Staphylococcal septicaemia, endocarditis, and osteomyelitis in dialysis and renal transplant patients ANTHONY NICHOLLS, NEIL EDWARD AND GRAEME R. D. CATTO	642
Tuberculous peritonitis: a review of thirty-five cases S. VYRAVANATHAN AND R. JEYARAJAH	649
The effect of varying amounts of intravenous glucose on the metabolic changes after surgery R. SWAMINATHAM, J. A. BRADLEY, G. H. HILL AND D. B. MORGAN	652
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Case reports	
Recurrent spontaneous hypothermia I. N. SLOTKI AND M. H. OELBAUM	656
Portuguese-type amyloid neuropathy in an English family JOHN M. MAHOOD	658
Spinal cord ischaemia complicating meningococcal meningitis SONIA S. SWART AND IAN F. PYE	661
Treatment of tardive dyskinesia with choline and tetrabenazine A. P. J. SNELL, MARIA CLEARY AND M. SAMBROOK	663
Agranulocytosis associated with carbamazepine, and a positive reaction with anti-lymphoid leukaemia antiserum during recovery C. W. I. OWENS, N. E. PARKER, P. P. NUNN AND J. DAVIES	665
Thyrotoxic myopathy presenting as dysphagia PETER MARKS, JOHN ANDERSON AND RICHARD VINCENT	669
Jaundice following warfarin therapy D. B. JONES, M. C. MAKEPEACE AND P. M. SMITH	671
Acute renal failure complicating Legionnaires' disease MALCOLM HARVEY, PHILIP QUIRKE AND DAVID WARREN	672
Life-threatening <i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i> infection RICHARD MCGONIGLE AND JOHN K. WAGSTAFF	675
Unilateral pulmonary oedema and <i>Pseudomonas pneumonia</i> J. UPPINGTON AND M. D. PENNEY	677
Books received; book reviews	679