Books received

Antimicrobial Chemotherapy. Edited by DAVID GREENWOOD. Baillière's Concise Medical Textbooks. Pp. 323, illustrated. Baillière Tindall, London, 1983. £6.95.

A Colour Atlas of Urology. By R. W. LLOYD-DAVIES, J. G. DOW and D. R. DAVIES. Pp. 287, illustrated. Wolfe Medical Publications, London, 1983. £48.00.

Drugs and Pregnancy. Human Teratogenesis and Related Problems. Edited by D. F. HAWKINS. Pp. 243. Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, London, Melbourne and New York, 1983. £10.00.

Lead versus Health: Sources and Effects of Low Level Lead Exposure. Edited by MICHAEL RUTTER and ROBIN RUSSELL JONES. Pp.

xiv + 379, illustrated. John Wiley & Sons, Chichester, New York, Brisbane, Toronto, Singapore, 1983. £18.50.

Pediatrics. Edited by HAROLD M. MAURER. Pp. xvii + 1077, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, New York, Edinburgh, London and Melbourne, 1983. £28.00.

Progress in Clinical Medicine. Vol. 8. Edited by A. R. HORLER and J. B. FOSTER. Pp. viii + 340, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, London, Melbourne, New York, 1983. £12.00.

Psychology and Medical Care. By G. KENT and M. DALGLEISH. Pp. xii + 356, illustrated. Van Nostrand Reinold (UK), Wokingham, 1983. £14.95 cloth, £6.95 paper.

Book reviews

Alder Hey Book of Children's Doses

4th edn. Pp. 65. Pharmacy Office, Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Eaton Road, Liverpool L12 2AP, 1982. U.K. single copies, 95p incl. post and packing; U.K. 10 or more copies, 85p incl. post and packing; overseas, 80p incl. packing, postage extra.

The new paediatric resident will find 95p well spent on the purchase of this booklet which contains within 65 pages all the commonly used paediatric drugs. Doses are calculated on a weight basis and are given as a total daily figure together with frequency of administration. Because drug doses often differ from those specified for older children, a separate section has now been made for neonates. There follows a brief section of general information, including the use of digoxin, prophylaxis of bacterial endocarditis, and a table of therapeutic drug levels.

No claim is made to provide a comprehensive list of preparations and the booklet is primarily intended for use in the Liverpool Children's Hospitals and Neonatal Units. However, it deservedly has a more general appeal which I hope will be enhanced in future editions by the inclusion of anti-malarial drugs and dopamine, as well as a list of those medications to be avoided in G6PD deficiency.

STEPHEN HERMAN,
Central Middlesex Hospital,
London NW10 7NS.

Diseases of the Esophagus

Edited by SIDNEY COHEN and ROGER D. SOLOWAY. Contemporary Issues in Gastroenterology Vol. 1. Pp. xii + 305, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, New York, Edinburgh, London and Melbourne, 1982. £28.00.

This book is the first in a series devoted to contemporary issues in gastroenterology and its 14 chapters have been written by different authors with the object of providing varied insights into specific areas of oesophageal disease. The inevitable consequence is that it has an unevenness of character and lacks the comprehensive coverage of oesophageal disease that its title implies. For example, it deals with the radiology but not the endoscopy of the oesophagus. Its distinguished North American authorship, with only one chapter being contributed from outside the United States, is reflected in the content of certain chapters and the list of references which are culled predominantly from the North American literature.

In general the book provides an up-to-date review of current thinking and advances in the fields covered. The chapters on physiology, pharmacology, congenital disorders and infections of the oesophagus are each well-balanced and comprehensive. The high standard of production and illustration of this volume is particularly evident in the splendid chapters on the radiology of the oesophagus

and on oesophageal cancer and pre-malignant changes in oesophageal disease. The coverage of gastro-oesophageal reflux in the chapters dealing with diagnosis, complications and surgical management is less satisfactory and there are obvious omissions in this book such as the development of ambulatory methods for oesophageal pH monitoring, the increasing use of the ANGELCHICK prosthesis to control reflux and the development of endoscopic methods of treatment. The view that mild strictures and those in patients whose general medical condition makes operation an unacceptable risk are the only ones in which a surgical approach should be avoided, would be disputed by many clinicians in this country.

This book will appeal to the physician or surgeon with an interest in gastroenterology rather than to the less specialised reader. It is neither a text book nor a reference manual but a collection of well-written reviews on oesophageal topics perhaps best dipped into and savoured individually rather than devoured from cover to cover. It is a work for the oesophageal epicure rather than the gastroenterological glutton.

M. ATKINSON,
University Hospital,
Queen's Medical Centre,
Nottingham NG7 2UH.

Multiple Choice Questions in Imaging Sciences

By DAVID FINLAY, JONATHAN BERRY and GEOFFREY BELL. Pp. 150. Baillière Tindall, London, 1983. £4.95.

Many people have failed MCQ papers—some because of lack of knowledge and others because of poor technique.

Sensible examinees will be on the look-out for a book which illustrates the type of question likely to be set. This is such a book. It has been written by people who are intimately concerned with training radiologists and is particularly appropriate for candidates sitting Part I of the FRCR.

The book—a handy paperback at a very acceptable price—is divided into 3 roughly equal sections on Physics, Anatomy and Imaging Techniques. A most useful adjunct to the answers is the frequent provision of an explanation which succinctly summarizes why the reader might have been misled in reaching the wrong conclusion.

If the response of trainee radiologists in one Teaching Hospital is anything to go by, this book should be a great success and will be very much in demand. I hope that the authors are determined to keep up to date and provide us with a further edition in due course.

C. D. R. FLOWER,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Cambridge CB2 2QQ.