be of particular use to teachers, therapists and nurses working with handicapped children in schools.

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Clinics in Haematology. Vol. 15, no. 1, Feb. 1986. Autologous Bone Marrow Transplantation, edited by Anthony H. Goldstone. Pp. x + 272, illustrated. W.B. Saunders, London, Philadelphia, Toronto, 1986. £15.00.

It is now quite evident that many patients with acute leukaemia and chronic myeloid leukaemia have been cured of their disease by a bone marrow transplant from a compatible sibling. Much of this success is due to the therapeutic freedom to intensify chemo/radiotherapy provided by this procedure. However the limited application of allogeneic transplantation has led haemato-oncologists to explore the wider use of autologous bone marrow transplantation (ABMT) to achieve the same result. Although initially viewed with some scepticism the publication of this volume testifies to an ever increasing interest in this approach that has resulted in numerous exciting recent developments.

This edition of *Clinics* ranges widely in its treatment of this fascinating field. Like other volumes in this series it suffers somewhat from a prolixity of style leading to some repetition and overlap of chapters. In places it seems the authors are uncertain whether a section is to serve as a detailed technical account or rather a concise overview of recent developments in a particular field.

Since autologous marrow is probably of rather inferior quality compared to that from a healthy donor the chapter on cryopreservation techniques and how to ensure optimal stem cell yields is very welcome. This is an excellent introduction to both theory and practice and the technical aspects are well presented. The view that twin transplant results may represent the best that can be achieved from ABMT is put forward in a review of data from Seattle. The possible role of a graft-versus-leukaemia effect (GVL) and the importance of its absence in twin and autologous transplants are discussed here and in subsequent chapters. The intriguing possibility that tumour immunised T-lymphocytes may be beneficial in ABMT and that their potential might be increased by lymphokines is also mentioned.

To purge or not to purge is currently a vexed question among the ABMT fraternity. The contribution of reinfused malignant cells to eventual relapse is unknown and the chapters on pharmacological and immunological cleansing of the marrow *in vitro* both address this problem. In the former case and in the section devoted to the lymphomas a more concise style with a better use of tables instead of text would have served to clarify a rather bewildering plethora of data. The sections on acute leukaemia are both excellent with appropriate emphasis on the critical evaluation of survival data and their dependence on the interval from diagnosis to ABMT. A more critical appraisal of purging here provides a salutary balance to the previous section.

The failure of ABMT in solid tumour therapy makes fairly dismal reading. It is made clear that ABMT can only be as

effective as the anti-cancer therapy that it follows. The short accounts of chronic myeloid leukaemia and the use of monoclonal antibodies *in vitro* are both quite helpful although the latter concentrates on leukaemic markers leaving the reader little the wiser regarding the current status of immunological purging.

Despite quibbles this is a useful addition to the series and serves to set the stage for future developments rather than providing any firm answers. It is important to realise that the advantage of ABMT over conventional therapy has yet to be conclusively demonstrated for a single condition. It is a sign of the pace of progress in this field that two recent developments, the *ex vivo* long term culture of marrow to reduce tumour load and the use of peripheral blood stem cells for autografting are nowhere mentioned in this text.

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A Guide to Drug Eruptions: the File of Side Effects to the Skin. Fourth edition, edited by W. Bruinsma. Pp. 124. The File of Medicines, Oosthuizen, The Netherlands, 1987. US \$35.00 (including yearly supplements)

Each year drug-related illness accounts for a significant number of hospital admissions. Since a large majority of allergic reactions affect the skin the incidence of drug-induced cutaneous eruptions probably reflects the risk of allergic drug reactions in general. Any treatise which attempts to record the type and risk of an unwanted side effect is to be welcomed.

Dr Bruinsma's book, now in its 4th Edition in 14 years, provides a list of dermatoses and the various drugs which induce them. The 124 page soft covered book deals in its first 59 pages with the skin reaction and the drugs responsible and in the following 33 pages names the drug and allies it to its dermatological side effects. The lack of illustrations assumes a degree of dermatological knowledge from the student and the non-dermatologist but in practice I do not feel this detracts from the usefulness of the book as a short quick guide to eruptions. For a more detailed knowledge of the subject there are 16 pages of references. The price of the book includes yearly supplements until another edition becomes due.

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Diagnostic Imaging in Neurological Disease, Ivan Moseley. Pp. x + 283, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh, London, Melbourne, New York, 1986. £55.00.

This book is unique among texts of its own class. The content is as defined by the author in the Preface, '... to indicate to