

Book Reviews

Annual Review of Immunology. Volume 7, William E. Paul, C. Garrison Fathman and Henry Metzger. Pp. vii + 730, illustrated. Annual Reviews Inc., Palo Alto, USA, 1989. \$34.00 (USA and Canada); \$38.00 (elsewhere).

The yearly arrival of the annual review series marks not only another year past but a very fruitful one for immunologists and molecular biologists. The 1989 *Annual Review of Immunology* accordingly devotes 12 out of 25 articles to various aspects of the T cells including structure, genetics, biological functions, memory, role in the development of human and murine autoimmune diseases and therapeutic manipulation by monoclonal antibodies. Excellent review articles on the molecular defects in paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria and chronic granulomatous disease (CGD) are included and will be useful to clinicians and scientists alike. The clinical implications of the identification of the X – CGD gene are clearly discussed in both terms of diagnosis and gene therapy.

An interesting opening feature in the book this year is an autobiographical section by George and Eval Klein aptly entitled 'How one thing has led to another'. This gives remarkable insight into their lives and careers from the very difficult years at the end of World War II on through their successful times at the Karolinska institute in Stockholm.

I found this year's *Annual Review of Immunology* particularly valuable and whether one reads it from cover to cover or just dips into the various articles, it will be an excellent source of reference.

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Glaucoma, edited by J.A. McAllister & R.P. Wilson. Pp. xiii + 271, illustrated. Butterworth Scientific, Westbury House, Guildford, Surrey, 1989. £59.50 (hard cover).

The aim of this edited review volume is to bring the reader rapidly up-to-date over a wide field in the diagnosis and management of glaucoma. Basically, divided into three sections, the initial chapters cover recent research into the patho-physiology of glaucoma and the use of modern techniques in the evaluation of visual function. The discussion of computer assisted perimetry provides much needed assistance in understanding the complexities and advantages of this increasingly used facility. There is a section on the aetiology and management of unusual secondary glaucomas with a fascinating explanation of the mechanisms of tumour related glaucoma. The section on surgical and laser treatment is the most practically useful part of the volume with plenty of advice on modifying, and coping with difficulties in filtration surgery. All the 14 chapters provide a succinct and easily readable account. The uniformity of style and presentation maintained by all the authors enable the ophthalmologist to read the volume as a whole rather than selecting individual contributions.

There are some omissions. There is little mention of the growing debate on the extent to which treatment modifies outcome in glaucoma. Neovascular glaucoma is mentioned at various points but deserves a chapter to itself. A chapter on surgical problem cases only briefly discusses the use of shunt and valve procedures. These criticisms apart, this volume is a 'must' for the general ophthalmologist. The extensive use of references will extend its appeal to a sub-specialist as well.

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Illustrated Guide to the Central Nervous System. K. Sugiura, G.A. Robinson and D.G. Stuart. Pp. 160, illustrated. Ishiyaku EuroAmerica, St. Louis, Tokyo, 1989. £19.25 softbound.

This is a small soft-back book which consists of a brief synopsis of neuroanatomy starting with embryology (covered in 3 pages) followed by osteology of the skull (4 pages), basic anatomy of the central nervous system (22 pages) and a review of the cranial nerves (24 pages).

The strength of the book is in the strong neurosurgical influence with an outstanding chapter on the physiology of raised intracranial pressure and the neuroanatomical havoc it wreaks is explained in detail. There are also labelled skull radiographs, 10 pages on computed tomography of the head and a detailed description of the blood supply of the brain with appropriate angiograms.

There is some horrible English in the misuse of 'exit' as a verb (present participle) and incorrect labelling of the actions of the eye muscles.

What is the place of this book? It would be useful to preclinical and clinical students as a supplement to emphasize the applied aspects of neuroanatomy. With these reservations it can be recommended.

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Psoriasis and Eczema, edited by Lionel Fry. Pp. vi + 202, illustrated. Clinical Press, Bristol, 1989. £15.00 paperback.

Psoriasis and Eczema is a small book which covers two large topics in detail and includes 18 colour illustrations. Three chapters on psoriasis describe clinical features, treatment, aetiology and pathogenesis. This is the best half of the book, reflecting the interest and expertise of the editor. The information is detailed and concise and particularly well referenced.

The chapter on aetiology and pathogenesis of psoriasis, whilst being of great interest to a trainee dermatologist, would probably prove to be unpalatable to those 'young