with no immediate reference to the drug or concentration would seem potentially hazardous.

This book is one of a number dealing with regional anaesthesia and it is difficult to recommend it in particular.

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Medical Therapy of Ischemic Heart Disease, edited by J. Abrams, C.J. Pepine and U. Thadani. Pp. x + 527, illustrated. Little, Brown & Company, Boston, Toronto, London, 1991. Hardback £55.00.

This book reviews in detail the use of nitrates, beta blockers and calcium antagonists in the medical management of patients with coronary artery disease. For each drug the authors provide chapters on the mechanism of action, their pharmacology, their actions in transient myocardial ischaemic syndromes (angina), their role in the infarcting and post-infarct patient and the problems associated with their use. There are, in addition, two chapters in the beginning which review the pathophysiology of myocardial ischaemia and the overall treatment of ischaemic heart disease. The two final chapters offer an approach to antianginal drug therapy and a guide to when angioplasty and bypass surgery should be considered.

There are three editors and 13 other contributors (15 from the United States and one from Newfoundland).

Books Received

ABC of Colorectal Diseases, edited by D.J. Jones and M.H. Irving. Pp. 103, illustrated. British Medical Journal, London, 1993. Paperback, £6.95.

ABC of Dermatology, 2nd Edition, P.K. Buxton. Pp. 98, illustrated. British Medical Journal, London, 1993. Paperback, £12.95.

ABC of Diabetes, 3rd Edition, P.K. Buxton. Pp. 56, illustrated. British Medical Journal, London, 1993. Paperback, £7.95.

ABC of Spinal Cord Injury, 2nd Edition, D. Grundy and A. Swain. Pp. 60, illustrated. British Medical Journal, London, 1993. Paperback, £8.95.

Annual Review of Medicine - Selected Topics in the Clinical Sciences, Vol. 44, edited by W.P. Creger, C.H. Coggins and E.W. Hancock. Pp. x + 542, illustrated. Annual Reviews Inc., Palo Alto, USA, 1993. Hardback, \$49.00.

Breathlessness, The Campbell Symposium, edited by N.L. Jones and K.J. Killian. Pp. 173, illustrated. Boehringer Ingelheim, 1991. Hardback, no charge.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, D.V. Skinner and R. Vincent. Pp. 214, illustrated. Oxford University Press, Oxford, New York, Tokyo, 1993. Paperback, £14.95.

They have produced a very authoritative book which is very well reference and indexed. Furthermore the editors have been remarkably successful in producing a series of chapters which are very uniform in style making the book easy to read. Unfortunately it appears to have taken some time to complete the editorial work and to publish the book. Very few papers published after 1987 are cited. The result is a very valuable review of the medical management of ischaemic heart disease based on the information available 5 years ago. Fortunately almost all is still clinically relevant as each chapter reviews the subject fully and in depth.

Although it is not difficult to read the book from cover to cover, most will use the book to review a specific topic. For this latter purpose the book can be highly recommended. For the person wanting to know about the role of calcium antagonists in the management of acute myocardial infarctions and post-infarction or the unwanted effects of beta blockers, it would be very difficult to find a better source of information. The same could be said of most of the chapters.

The reader from Europe will note a slight bias towards the American literature and will note with some surprise, for example, that metoprolol is not recommended for the post-infarct patient in the USA. However, with very few reservations the book can be recommended to cardiologists, clinical pharmacologists, most physicians in training and all those drug companies that make one of the three groups of drugs discussed.

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Change and Teamwork in Primary Care, edited by M. Pringle. Pp. xi + 119, illustrated. British Medical Journal, London, 1993. Paperback, £7.95.

Colour Guide to Rheumatology, J.M.H. Moll. Pp. 160, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, London, Edinburgh, 1992. Paperback, £7.95.

Community Health, Preventive Medicine and Social Service, 6th Edition. B. Meredith Davies and T. Davies. Pp. xiii + 570, illustrated. Bailliere Tindall, London, Philadelphia, Sydney, Tokyo, Toronto, 1993. Paperback, £14.95.

Current Surgical Practice, Vol. 6, M. Hobsley, A. Johnson and T. Treasure. Pp. 201, illustrated. Edward Arnold, London, Boston, Melbourne, Auckland, 1993. Paperback, £32.50.

Dermatology - An Illustrated Colour Text, D.J. Gawkrödger. Pp. 128, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, London, New York, 1992. Paperback, £14.95.

Disorders of the Cardiovascular System, D. Patterson and T. Treasure. Pp. 356, illustrated. Edward Arnold, London, Boston, Melbourne, Auckland, 1993. Paperback, £29.95.

Electrolytes, Body Fluids and Acid Base Balance, R. Eccles. Pp. 134, illustrated. Edward Arnold, London, Boston, Melbourne, Auckland, 1993. Paperback £14.99.