Written strictly within the brief implied by the title, this book is both a laboratory manual and a textbook/atlas of diagnosis immunocytochemistry. The balance is heavily weighted in favour of the latter, which comprises 80% of the book. The review of the methodology is, nevertheless, adequate and sufficiently clearly written for a laboratory technician who is an immunocytochemical novice to follow. The chapters for the diagnostic disorders and how to interpret the results. The book is clearly written and, with one or two exceptions, the figures show exactly what is intended.

There are, however, two major problems with a book of this kind. The first relates to the rapidity of new developments in the field. New antibodies become available at ever shorter intervals and some of these rapidly rise to the top of the list of desirability. This applies, too, to new techniques; the technique of heating sections in a microwave oven prior to staining was not in vogue at the time this book was written and has had a profound effect on immunocytochemistry practice. The second problem is whether immunocytochemistry is a free-standing discipline, as this book implies, or an applied science best appreciated in the context of specialist diagnostic pathology tests. My own prejudice is in favour of the latter.

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Parkinson's Disease Symposium Review 1992, edited by M. Sandler. Pp. 65. John Libbey, London, Paris, Rome, 1993. Paperback £12.00.

This book is based on two symposia in January and June 1992. The four chapters are written by recognized experts in their respective fields. Jankovic's review concentrating on the treatment of Parkinson's disease is both informative and detailed. His section on the management of fluctuations and dyskinesias in this disorder will be particularly helpful for those who so frequently come across these complications in the clinic. The value of dopamine agonists in the treatment of Parkinson's disease remains uncertain at present. The potential for the use of these agents in preventing long-term complications has yet to be established but may lead to greater use of these agents. In this context, the review of Pergolide by Olanow is particularly helpful. Whether this drug has any

significant advantages over other dopamine agonists is a matter for debate. Sandler reviews dopaminergic neuroprotection focusing mainly on the monoaminoxidase B inhibitor Selegiline. He draws attention to the fact that the actions of this drug are not confined to inhibition of this enzyme. For instance, Selegiline is known to increase the life expectancy in rats and possibly in Parkinson patients as well!

Overall, this is a brief but useful little book that can easily be read in a couple of hours. Sections of it may be useful for further reference but I would be concerned that its cost of £12 may limit its attraction.

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Textbook of Developmental Paediatrics, M. Pollak. Pp. 584, illustrated. Churchill Livingstone, London, New York, Tokyo, 1993. Hardback £37.50.

The aim of this book is to bring together information from many sources. It begins with an interesting outline of the history of the study of child development. There are extensive references at the end of every chapter and details of many different developmental tests.

Perhaps because of the very comprehensive coverage, some subjects stand out less well than others. For example, in the section on motor development, the discussion of clumsy children, although thorough and attempting to determine a commonsense view, fails to create a sufficiently vivid picture of an affected child. In the discussion of autism, there is no mention of Wing's triad of symptoms or of the recently proposed 'Theory of Mind'. When discussing language delay, the author acknowledges that parents may be the best therapists, but there is no indication of how they should help their children. Here, a simple checklist, such as is given to parents by speech therapists, would have made the point clearly.

The assessment and management of children with developmental disorders is carried out by a multidisciplinary team. Although the author does introduce the concept of the child development team in the final chapter, it would have been helpful to outline the roles of different professionals throughout the book and to consider some of the difficulties, both interpersonal and logistical, that can arise.

Finally, in order to make the excellent information more accessible to all paediatricians in training, it would be helpful to have key points listed at the end of each chapter.

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