the clinical applications of such measurements.

The specific response of infection and allergy has of course been used for many years in one form or another for diagnosing and monitoring disease. However, it is surprising how little the sensitivity of radioimmunoassay has been exploited in this field. This book discusses the use of such assays for the management of allergy together with the benefits of in vitro measurement over skin testing. Examples are given of antibody measurement in various forms of infection such as extrinsic allergic alveolitis, brucellois and candidiasis allowing readers to see the wider potential in fields of their own interest. A brief discussion of immune complex assays is included though not in enough detail to be very useful. A brief but wide-ranging review of antibody measurement in general includes anti-idiotype and allotype antibodies, anti-tumour antibodies and antibodies to drugs. For those in non-medical fields a chapter on veterinary applications is included.

Overall a fascinating and useful book which certainly whets the appetite. It brings together ideas from diverse fields of pathology and should be of interest to clinical pathologist and researcher alike.

JT WHICHER

Cushing's Syndrome. Monographs on Endocrinology. Vol 22. DT Krieger. (Pp 142; illustrated; DM 88; US$41·00.) Springer-Verlag. 1982.

Cushing's Syndrome is a distinguished addition to this series of monographs on endocrinology. Although it is not common in practice, the disentangling of the clinical enigma of overactivity of the adrenal cortex has and continues to yield information of wide biological interest. Dr. Krieger has herself made a signal contribution in this field.

The organisation of the book is conventional with chapters on the regulation of ACTH secretion (including reference to the isolation and structure of CRF reported in 1981) and ACTH action. Two thirds of the book, however, is concerned with clinical manifestations, investigation, and treatment of Cushing's syndrome. The emphasis is mostly on Cushing's disease and consideration of treatment of the more common condition of ectopic ACTH production is cursory. Nevertheless this is an admirable, up-to-date, and well referenced monograph.

RL HIMSWORTH

The Pathology and Management of Thyroid Disease. Clinics in Endocrinology and Metabolism. Vol 10 No 2. Guest ed ED Williams. (Pp 161; illustrated; £9.75.) WB Saunders Company Ltd. 1981.

The general excellence of the "Clinics" monographs is due to the choice of well-known and widely travelled editors who are personally acquainted with the specialists in their field. Experts usually agree to participate in a well conceived volume when they respect the editor. The additional advantage of the "Clinics" is their rapid publication. In this series only six months elapse between writing a review and its appearance in print, whereas most symposia and textbooks may linger for two to four years before they see the light of day. This slim volume is particularly helpful to any one involved in diagnosis or treatment of thyroid disorders because it deals succinctly with several controversial areas in thyroid pathology. Some chapters are written by surgeons and others by renowned pathologists and cytologists from Scandinavia, France, UK, and USA. Fine needle aspiration biopsy/cytology is well covered and needs to be taken up much more widely than it has been so far. The older method of large needle biopsy never became popular as it so often required general anaesthesia, which seemed unfair on the patient. Other controversies covered are the occurrence of malignancy in dyshormonogenetic goitres of after neck irradiation, thyroid inclusions in lymph nodes, the relationship between thyroid lymphomas and autoimmune thyroiditis, and the whole subject of medullary calcitonin tumours, sporadic and hereditary. The contributions are so attractively written and illustrated that reading this book truly combines business with pleasure.

DEBORAH DONIACH

Notices

International Symposium on Progress in Perinatal Medicine

This symposium will be held in Florence, Italy, 10–12 May 1983. Topics will include: Perspective in fetal diagnosis; RIA in the antenatal evaluation of normal fetus-placental proteins and hormones; Alternative methods for Toxoplasma, Rubella, Viruses; Immune response of fetus; Clinical diagnostic techniques and laboratory methods for congenital malformations and diseases. For information, please contact: A Albertini, Institute of Chemistry, School of Medicine, Via Valsabbina, 1 Brescia, Italy.

Heinz Karger Prizes

The Heinz Karger Memorial Foundation invites the submission of papers on the following subjects:

1983: An original research paper or review summarising an author's personal contributions to "cellular ageing".

1984: An original research paper on "Invasion and metastasis" (concerning either basic or clinical investigations in order to shed light on the process of malignant dissemination).

In 1983, the Foundation will commemorate its 20th anniversary by granting an award of Sw Fr 20 000. In 1984, the prize carries a cash award of Sw Fr 10 000. For further information (including rules for manuscript preparation) please contact: S Karger AG, BASEL, Auschwilerstrasse 10, CH-4000 Basel.

Correction

In the Technical method by Davies *et al*[1] in the issue of July 1982, the source of reference 8 should read *J Pathol* 1982;**137**:60.

Reference

[1] Davies JD, Young EW. Congo blue: a rapid stain for elastic fibres. *J Clin Pathol* 1982;**35**:789.

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