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Weintraub, B. D., and Rosen, S. W. (1971). Ectopic production of human chorionic somatomammotrophin by nontrophoblastic cancers. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology*, **32**, 94-101.

The February 1978 issue

THE FEBRUARY 1978 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

Spectrum of renal tubular damage in renal failure secondary to cirrhosis and fulminant hepatic failure
S. P. WILKINSON, D. HIRST, D. W. DAY, AND ROGER WILLIAMS

Hepatocellular carcinoma and hepatic cirrhosis in the west of Scotland: a 25-year necropsy review
R. A. BURNETT, R. S. PATRICK, W. G. S. SPILG, W. M. BUCHANAN, AND R. N. M. MACSWEEN

Benign oesophageal papillomatosis
W. E. WATERFALL, S. SOMERS, AND D. J. DESA

Squamous carcinoma of the breast
P. S. HASLETON, K. A. MISCH, K. S. VASUDEV, AND D. GEORGE

Lymphocyte transformation in cancer patients: variation in results according to technique
GILLIAN M. L. GYTE AND SYLVIA M. WATKINS

Crossreaction of antilymphocyte globulin with human granulocyte colony-forming cells
A. J. BARRETT, P. LONGHURST, N. ROSENGURT, J. R. HOBBS, AND J. G. HUMBLE

The case for laboratory aides in district clinical chemistry departments
DEREK WATSON

International Committee for Standardization in Haematology

Recommendations for reference method for haemoglobinometry in human blood (ICSH Standard EP 6/2: 1977) and specifications for international haemoglobin cyanide reference preparation (ICSH Standard EP 6/3: 1977)

Sterilisation in the laboratory autoclave using direct air displacement by steam
P. H. EVERALL, C. A. MORRIS, AND R. YARNELL

Sporicidal activity of mixtures of alcohol and hypochlorite
D. COATES AND JANET E. DEATH

Effect of bacterial flora on staphylococcal colonisation of the newborn
WILLIAM T. SPECK, JOHN M. DRISCOLL, RICHARD A. POLIN, AND HERBERT S. ROSENKRANZ

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Cerebral ventriculitis associated with *Achromobacter xylosoxidans*
SHIRO SHIGETA, YOSHIO YASUNAGA, KEN HONZUMI, HIROKO OKAMURA, ROKURO KUMATA, AND SHINICHIRO ENDO

Synergy between sulphonamide and trimethoprim in the presence of pus
P. N. EDMUNDS

Effect of thymidine on activity of trimethoprim and sulphamethoxazole
ANNE STOKES AND R. W. LACEY

Serum standards for the bioassay of aminoglycosides in cerebrospinal fluid
S. HAMMERBERG, R. SINAI, AND M. I. MARKS

Routine diagnosis of human rotaviruses in stools
G. ZISSIS, J. P. LAMBERT, AND D. DE KEGEL

Laboratory diagnosis of EB virus infection in some cases presenting as hepatitis
JOAN M. B. EDWARDS, ELISE M. VANDERVELDE, B. J. COHEN, AND D. A. MCSWIGGAN

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Staining clinical specimens for acid-fast bacilli by means of a mechanical conveyor system
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M. BARNHAM AND A. A. GLYNN

Technical methods

Anthocyanin BB: a nuclear stain substitute for haematoxylin
S. A. AL-TIKRITI AND F. WALKER

Measurement of plasma volume using ⁵⁹Fe-labelled transferrin
C. RICKETTS AND I. CAVILL

Letters to the Editor

Book reviews

- (1961). Mieloma meningeo. *Anales de la Facultad de Medicina de Montevideo*, **46**, 82-91.
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SAUNDERS and R. F. BURNS
- 38** Transport of specimens for clinical chemistry and
analysis November 1977 P. WILDING, J. F. ZILVA, and
C. E. WILDE

'Identification and Mixtures of Antibodies' with its very helpful Table (22.2) on identification of antibodies. For any haematology and blood transfusion trainee acquisition of this book would be £12.00 judiciously spent; it merits a place on any transfusion laboratory's bookshelf next to 'Mollison' and 'Race and Sanger'.

I. A. D. TOVEY

A Colour Atlas of Histological Staining Techniques. By Arthur Smith and John Bruton. (Pp. 192; illustrated; £5.00.) London: Wolfe Medical Publications. 1977.

A colour atlas must be judged on the suitability of its preparations and the quality of the sections and photomicrographs. When on their home ground the authors have reproduced elegant preparations from bones and teeth, but elsewhere there are too many examples of inappropriate tissues, unacceptable stains, or poor colour reproduction. This book does not do justice to the aesthetic attraction of good histological technique.

R. A. B. DRURY

Pathology of Ischaemic Heart Disease. By Sir Theo Crawford. Postgraduate Pathology Series. (Pp. x + 170; illustrated; £10.50.) London, Boston, Sydney, Wellington, Durban, Toronto: Butterworths. 1977.

The stated aim of this monograph is to provide the young pathologist with the knowledge he might be expected to gain on the subject during his training. The title has been chosen with care because it describes the content more precisely than some of the more popular terms, such as coronary thrombosis or myocardial infarction. Precision is the hall-mark of Sir Theo's writing, and he has produced a clear and concise account of a disease

which, although common, is not fully understood.

In addition to a lucid description of the morphological features of ischaemic heart disease, there is a well-illustrated account of the variable anatomy of coronary arteries and of techniques for their systematic examination. These are supplemented by an account of the associated haematological and biochemical changes. The pathogenesis of atheroma is not dealt with in detail because it is to be the subject of a future monograph in the same series. However, there is adequate consideration of it as a local manifestation of atherosclerosis, along with the various aetiological and risk factors; this includes a useful review of recent work on 'the water story'—the role of soft water.

At a time when the necropsy has lost some of its former popularity, it is refreshing to read work so clearly based on careful, systematic morphological examinations. This useful book will have an appeal among pathologists—and clinicians—much wider than the group for whom it was originally planned.

H. M. CAMERON

Virus Hepatitis and its Control. By Yvonne E. Cossart. (Pp. x + 294; illustrated; £7.50.) London: Bailliere Tindall. 1977.

This concise book is packed with a higher concentration of facts and a lower concentration of unhelpful speculations than many others in the extensive literature of hepatitis. The first 11 chapters deal with the virology and natural history of hepatitis A and B. This is not a methods 'cook book' but contains a helpful review of techniques and critique of their practical value. Radioimmunoassay received less than justice, however, notably in the misleading Table 22, where an apparently irrelevant 'correction' factor has been applied.

The next 16 chapters cover specific practical clinical and epidemiological problems. Helpful and common-sensical advice is given on most of the familiar and some less familiar difficulties and queries. More detail would be useful concerning many of these problems, notably the infectivity of carriers. Immunoglobulin can sometimes be more helpful than suggested in the control of school outbreaks. Tattooists would be better advised to use disposable apparatus than worry about sterilisation techniques.

The book will be most helpful to clinicians and community health workers facing the everyday problems of hepatitis and to clinical pathologists asked to advise on such matters. It will also help teachers and novice researchers; the numerous references include many from 1976. Dr Yvonne Cossart must be congratulated on producing such a useful book—a 'best buy' on hepatitis, which will gather no dust from disuse!

N. R. GRIST

Notice

Carcino-embryonic proteins

The 6th Meeting of the International Research Group for Carcino-embryonic Proteins (IRGCP) will be held on 17-21 September 1978 in Marburg/Lahn, West Germany.

The topics to be discussed include the following: (1) Clinical application; (2) Biology, immunochemistry, and significance in embryo- and carcinogenesis; and (3) Methods of standardisation.

For further information please write to Prof. Dr F.-G. Lehmann, Department of Medicine, E. Mannkopffstraße 1, D-3550 Marburg/Lahn, West Germany.

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