tumours with particular reference to the investigation of what are often difficult diagnoses by immune techniques.

G SLAVIN

Antibiotics of the Beta-Lactam Group. D Greenwood (Pp 84; £8.95.) John Wiley & Sons Limited. 1982.

This very readable short review of the Beta-Lactam antibiotics is the second of a series from this publisher designed to allow a well chosen individual the opportunity to offer a distillation of his experience and knowledge of a subject without the need to cover it to total exhaustion. Dr Greenwood's interest in the action of antibiotics on bacterial cells is well known, and his natural enthusiasm in this study is evident in the text. It is clear and succinct, and should appeal to a wide spread of readers of different degrees of knowledge of the subject. It could be a painless introduction to a student faced with this large and growing group of antibiotics, but at the same time it contains information and views of more esoteric interest. The six chapters deal with development, the response of bacteria, their action, resistance, interaction, and the therapeutic use of the Beta-Lactams.

There are a number of illustrations, some of high quality, some bibliography, and a good index. I would have preferred a more traditional typeface to the typewritten style offered.

GL GIBSON

Some new titles

The receipt of these books is acknowledged and this listing must be regarded as

sufficient return for the courtesy of the sender. Books that appear of particular interest will be reviewed as space permits.

Pathology of Tumours in Laboratory Animals. Vol 3. Tumours of the Hamster. IARC Scientific Publications no. 34. (Pp 461; US\$ 40; Sw fr 80.) World Health Organisation. 1982.

Cancer Incidence in Five Continents. Vol IV. IARC Scientific Publications no. 42. Ed J Wat-rhouse, C Muir, K Shan-mugaratnam and J Powell. (Pp 812; Sw fr 100; US\$ 50.00). World Health Organisation. 1982.

Prevent Infection. Translated by WC Noble. (Pp 106; paperback £3.75.) William Heinemann Medical Books Ltd., 1983.

1982 Year Book of Cancer. Ed RL Clark, RW Cumley and RC Hickey. (Pp 477; £33.) Year Book Medical Publishers Inc. 1982.

Notices

Technology impact: new directions in laboratory medicine

In recent years rapid progress has been made in understanding the biochemical and molecular biological pathogenesis of disease processes. Because of this expansion in our ability to diagnose and monitor human disease, new approaches to disease prevention and therapy are now emerging.

The conference will draw together physicians (cardiologists, allergists) and analytical scientists (clinical chemists, biomedical

engineers) to present and discuss information critical to the development of new directions and applications of diagnostic monitoring.

This conference will be held 21-23 September 1983 at the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York City.

For further information, contact: Conference Department, The New York Academy of Sciences, 2 East 63rd Street, New York, NY 10021.

Expression of results of haemoglobin determinations

On the occasion of the Congresses of the International Society of Haematology and the International Society of Blood Transfusion in Budapest (August 1982), the Board and the General Assembly of the International Committee for Standardization in Haematology approved the following resolution:

"In physiological, biochemical or metabolic studies expressing results of haemoglobin determination as amount of substance is acceptable, but for classification, diagnostic and/or therapeutic purposes the continued use of mass concentration is recommended. However, for the sake of uniformity in reporting it may be useful to include also the result expressed as amount of substance.

When Hb is reported as mass concentration it should be expressed in g/l. When reported as substance concentration the elementary entity should be defined as the haemoglobin monomer, and clearly specified in the component name—for example, Hb(Fe), HbCO(Fe), MCH(Fe)."