

## Book reviews

### Some new titles

The receipt of books is acknowledged, and this listing must be regarded as sufficient return for the courtesy of the sender. Books that appear to be of particular interest will be reviewed as space permits.

**Acute Virus Infections of Poultry.** Ed JB McFerran, MS McNulty. (Pp 242; £49.50.) Martinus Nijhoff. 1986. ISBN 0-89838-809-0.

**Progrès Récents en Electrophorèse Bidimensionnelle. Recent Progresses in Two-Dimensional Electrophoresis.** MM Galteau, G Siest. (Pp 328; no price given.) Presses Universitaires de Nancy. 1986. ISBN 2-86480-248-1.

**Diagnosis of Mycotoxicoses. Current Topics in Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science.** 33. Ed JL Richiard, JR Thurston. (Pp 411; £77.75.) Martinus Nijhoff. 1986. ISBN 0-89838-751-5.

**Environmental Carcinogen: Selected Methods of Analysis. Vol 8. Some Metals: As, Be, Cd, Cr, Ni, Pb, Se, Zn.** IARC Scientific Publications No 71. Ed IK O'Neill, P Schuller, L Fishbein. (Pp 485; £20.) Oxford University Press. 1986. ISBN 92-832-1171-5.

**Geriatric Nephrology. Developments in Nephrology.** Ed DG Oreopoulos. (Pp 293; £54.95.) Martinus Nijhoff. 1986. ISBN 0-89838-781-7.

**Breast Cancer. Treatment and Prognosis.** Ed Basil A Stoll. (Pp 337; £39.50.) Blackwells. 1986. ISBN 0-632-01485-7.

**Retroviruses and Human Pathology.** Ed RC Gallo, D Stehelin, OE Varnier. (Pp 576; \$79.50.) Humana Press Inc. 1986. ISBN 0-89603-098-9.

**Tumour Markers and their Significance in the Management of Breast Cancer. Progress in Clinical and Biological Research.** Ed T Dao, Angela Brodie, C Ip. (Pp 160; £28.) Alan R Liss Inc. 1986. ISBN 0-8451-5054-5.

This volume is a compilation of manuscripts from the proceedings of a tumour marker workshop. There are three sections: circulating tumour markers with data on human mammary epithelial antigens, glycosyltransferases, and sialyltransferases; breast cancer antigens describing T and Tn

antigens and an interesting 43 K tumour associated antigen; oestrogen metabolites and oestrogen induced proteins, containing chapters on 16  $\alpha$  hydroxylation of oestrogen (a potential marker of breast cancer risk) and induction of several different proteins whose synthesis is regulated by oestrogen. This subject matter thus concentrates on more novel markers than the classical onco-fetal proteins and enzymes. The prospective reader should therefore not be misled by the book's title. Tumour markers are not comprehensively covered, and there is little of immediate application to patient management or clinical practice. All chapters, however, are immensely readable and they provide helpful background information. My major concern is that the book is not good value, especially as several of the chapters can be found in a similar form in other more reasonably priced publications.

WR MILLER

**Exfoliative Cytopathology. Series in Laboratory Medicine.** 3rd ed. Zuher M Naib. (Pp 629; £47.15.) Churchill Livingstone. 1985. ISBN 0-316-59673-6.

This third edition reflects the author's long experience of cytopathology. It is a concisely written book, which contains a great deal of factual information in a handy sized volume. One third is about gynaecological cytopathology and the remaining chapters range through almost every other source of diagnostic cytological material. It is illustrated by numerous half tone figures of variable quality and by line drawings. Tables and lists are used freely for differential diagnoses and diagnostic pitfalls.

A chapter on thin needle aspiration has been added in this edition. With the exception of immunocytochemistry, other newer aspects of cytopathology such as endoscopic brushings, opportunistic infections, and human papillomavirus infection of the cervix receive some mention. These would have benefited from fuller discussion at the expense of some of the detailed descriptions of topics, such as gastric washings and vaginal cytology, which have little place in current practice.

This volume contains a lot of information for the price and will be a useful reference book in the laboratory.

ELIZABETH A HUDSON

**Biopsy Pathology of the Oesophagus, Stomach and Duodenum. Biopsy Pathology Series.** DW Day. (Pp 294; £30.) Chapman and Hall. 1986. ISBN 0-412-22210-8.

This compact addition to the biopsy series provides interesting reading for the patholo-

gist reporting on gastrointestinal biopsy or cytology specimens. Useful references amplify the text and relevant illustrations have been chosen with care. There is an excellent description of gastric polyps. Neoplasia and dysplasia justifiably command high standards of diagnostic expertise, and the wide range of possible neoplastic lesions is discussed with reference to selective diagnostic criteria: immunoproliferative small intestinal disease and  $\alpha$  chain disease can be identified in duodenal biopsies, and cytomegalovirus infection is encountered in immunosuppressed patients.

Your attention is drawn to Kaposi's sarcoma, which could become an increasingly common diagnostic problem in patients with AIDS. Gastritis has not yet caught up with *Campylobacter pyloridis*, or with more recent observations on bile or duodenogastric reflux. Dr Husain is responsible for the chapter on cytology and he records excellent results using a grading system for reports. He emphasises the value of assessment of the nuclear:nucleolar ratio and draws attention to the excellent survival rates for patients with gastric cancer in Japan compared with the poor survival rates in Europe due to the high level of detection of early gastric cancer.

M THOMPSON

**Monoclonal Antibodies. Methods in Hematology.** Ed PCL Beverley. (Pp 275; £49.50.) Churchill Livingstone. 1986. ISBN 0-443-02990-3.

Monoclonal antibodies have revolutionised biology in a way almost unequalled in its history, and this monograph comes just after the tenth anniversary of the initial description of the methodology of their production by Kohler and Milstein. The 11 contributions are from American and British authors and are of a consistently high standard. The illustrations are of good quality, and there are very few typographical errors. All contributions are well referenced and the index is comprehensive.

The first three contributions describe strategies for the production of monoclonal antibodies, their detection, and the principles of immunochemistry. The fourth chapter reviews the production of human monoclonal antibodies. The rest of the book is largely devoted to discussion of the use of monoclonal antibodies for immunological, haematological, and functional studies. The value of immunofluorescence, flow cytometry, and immunoenzyme methods are well described and their role in the study of leukaemia and lymphoma is clearly stated.