
That recombinant DNA technology is having a revolutionary effect on the study and diagnosis of genetic disease has become cliché. Yet much of the detail of the new techniques remains obscure and inaccessible to research workers. Clinical pathologists and biochemists will increasingly be called on to carry out these investigations, and this little book will prove invaluable.

There are eight chapters covering fetal DNA analysis (using chorionic villi or amniotic fluid cells); an outline of linkage analysis; the use of synthetic oligonucleotide probes and double (sandwich) hybridisation; fine gene mapping (methods used to obtain cDNA and genomic DNA clones and how to use them to analyse the transcriptional unit of a gene); in situ hybridisation; chromosome analysis by flow cytometry; and finally, the new technique of pulsed field gradient electrophoresis for analysing large DNA fragments. There is an appendix giving the addresses of suppliers of reagents and instruments cited in the text, and an index. This book can be highly recommended to all those who need a simple yet detailed laboratory guide to the new DNA technologies being used in the study and diagnosis of genetic disease.

A. E. H. Emery

ACP Locum Bureau
The Association of Clinical Pathologists runs a locum bureau for consultant pathologists.
Applicants with the MRC Path who would like to do locums and anyone requiring a locum should contact Dr David Mecher, Histopathology Department, Sussex County Hospital, Eastern Road, Brighton BN2 5BE.

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The Heinz Karger Memorial Foundation invites the submission of papers on the following subjects:
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Manuscripts must not exceed 20 typewritten pages, including illustrations, tables, and bibliography. Manuscripts marked “Competition” have to reach the publishers, S Karger AG, Basel, Allschwilerstrasse 10, CH-4009 Basel, not later than February 28 of either year. The manuscript must be typewritten on one side only, double-spaced, and is to be submitted in five copies, and in accordance with the instructions contained in the “Rules for the Preparation of Manuscripts”, which can be obtained free of charge from the publishers if the request is marked “Competition”.

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