

ping contributions from a wide spectrum of interested parties—a patient, a general practitioner, a physician, a nurse, a manufacturer of diagnostic products, and a health department official—as well as pathologists, biochemists, and technologists. The subject matter is divided into sections dealing with the need for decentralised testing, what industry is providing for this purpose, the changed responsibility and cost implications of decentralised testing, and the role of ECCLS in setting standards for good practice.

This publication provides an easily readable and up to date account of a subject of great topical interest in all concerned with the provision of the pathology services. It conveys several important messages, notably that decentralised costing requires an active laboratory role and that it will increase the costs of laboratory services in larger hospitals. I commend it particularly to pathologists, but it could also be read with benefit by clinicians and planners.

FV FLYNN

**The Year Book of Pathology and Clinical Pathology 1987.** Ed KM Brinkhous. (Pp 462; \$38.50.) Wolfe Medical Publications Limited. 1987. ISBN 0-8151-1242-4.

This year book covers literature in pathology and clinical pathology to August 1986. The format is a model for this type of monograph. Each article selected for each topic is well summarised and is followed by a short, well informed critical commentary usually containing a small number of further important references. Although the subjects are weighted considerably towards histopathology, any pathologist reading this book will have his thirst wetted to explore further some of the topics. The production of this volume is good and the printing is very clear.

MG RIUSLER

**Immunology. A Short Course.** E Benjamani, S Leskowitz. (Pp 412; \$22.95.) Alan R Liss Inc. 1987. ISBN 0-8451-4228-3

You could be forgiven for asking why anyone would write another textbook of immunology when so many excellent ones are available already. The authors argue that most immunology books “overshoot the mark”, overburdening and boring the student. I sympathise with this view and welcome any book that can capture the

essence of immunology and stimulate the reader. There are no surprises in the structure of this book. Twenty chapters cover the traditional areas of basic immunology: each chapter has a concluding summary followed by a series of multiple choice questions and answers which serve as revision. There are five to six key references in each chapter, mostly dated 1986 or earlier.

There are no unique features that will make this book a leader in the field: but it is well written, clearly illustrated, and competitively priced. As such, it is a useful addition to the literature for all students of immunology, undergraduate and post-graduate.

MR HAENEY

**Tumor Cell Differentiation.** Biology and Pharmacology. Ed J Aarbakke, PK Chiang, HP Koeffler. (Pp 374; \$64.50.) The Humana Press Inc. 1987. ISBN 0-89603-134-9.

This book is one volume of a series on experimental biology and medicine, it contains part of the proceedings of an international symposium held in July 1986, and papers included are a series of up to date mini reviews predominantly related to physiological and pharmacological reagents that affect differentiation and growth of leukaemic and normal haematopoietic cells. The volume is divided into four sections, the first of which starts with an overview by Leo Sacks on the interrelationship of growth and differentiation. Later articles cover recent advances in the identification of growth factors and their target cell populations together with papers which address the potential therapeutic approach of reversing malignancy by inducing differentiation. There follows a series of articles, drawing on both *in vitro* and *in vivo* data, on the role of various controlling factors, including vitamin derivatives in myeloid differentiation and proliferation. The third section deals with the role of nucleosides and methylation as controlling elements in differentiation with examples drawn from work on leukaemia and the 3T3-L1 adipocyte system. The last section considers cellular interactions as they affect differentiation, including an article by Stanbridge on differentiation as a mechanism for controlling malignancy in human cell hybrids. In general the book is well written with articles by international authorities. It is, however, of specialist interest and likely to be primarily purchased by libraries as a reference source.

BA GUSTERSON

## Notices

### Leeds Course in Clinical Nutrition

6-9 September 1988

Both participants and exhibitors should apply for further particulars to:

Mrs H L Helme  
Department of Adult and Continuing Education, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT  
Tel: (0532) 435036  
(0532) 333233 (from summer term)

### Association of Clinical Pathologists

#### Junior Membership

Junior membership of the Association of Clinical Pathologists is available to trainees in all branches of pathology for up to six years or until they attain consultant status. The annual subscription is only £18.00, which may be claimed against tax.

All junior members receive monthly copies of the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*. Other benefits include membership of the Junior members' group and a regular junior members' newsletter, the A C P Newsletter, and all the documents regularly sent to full members of the Association. These include the twice yearly summary of pathology courses included in the A C P Postgraduate Education Programme.

For Junior Membership apply to: Dr J D Davies, Education Secretary, University Department of Pathology, Bristol Royal Infirmary, Bristol B52 8HW.

### 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 Melcher, Histopathology Department, Sussex County Hospital, Eastern Road, Brighton BN2 5BE.