

by pathologists for pathologists", and volume 1 compares favourably with the *Recent Advances in Pathology* series. The articles cover aspects of gynaecological, urological, and nephrological pathology.

Much of this volume describes cancers with low malignant potential, and the term "borderline" in ovarian tumours is used not only for serous and mucinous tumours, but also endometrioid, clear cell, Brenner and mixed Mullerian tumours. The diagnosis of persistent and proliferative gestational trophoblastic disease is clearly described.

There are chapters on early prostatic malignancy, and the lack of editorial censorship is shown by one author warning of the risks of treating incidental prostatic carcinoma, while the subsequent chapter advocates radical prostatectomy for similar lesions. The book also describes papillary prostatic urethral lesions and malignant testicular stromal tumours, and there are chapters on the multiple causes of crescentic glomerulonephritis and fibrillary glomerulonephritis.

This is a very valuable collection of articles, and reasonably priced. If subsequent volumes are of a similar standard *Progress in Reproductive and Urinary Tract Pathology* will be a very welcome series of publications.

KM GRIGOR

**Cyclosporin. Mode of Action and Clinical Application.** Ed AW Thomson. (Pp 372; £50.) Kluwer Academic Publishers. 1990. ISBN 0 7462-0124-9.

It is trite to note that the use of cyclosporin has greatly enlarged the clinical possibilities of transplantation, and it is a truism to state that trying to understand the mechanism of its actions has pained immunologists by showing up a huge area of their ignorance. The understanding of molecular and cellular signal transduction and effector activation are being applied to cyclosporin and its new rival FK506, but there is still much to learn—and much to be learnt from studies of the pharmacology of cyclosporin.

Dr Thomson, whose own work has combined functional and morphological investigations in this field, has edited an attractive and useful synoptic account of our general understanding up to early 1989. There are 15 chapters by active scientists and clinicians from Australia, Britain, France, Switzerland and the USA. They review in varying detail the effects of cyclosporin A on mechanisms of cellular and humoral immune response initiation and amplification (20% of the book), and its therapeutic potential or proven value in human diseases of the bone marrow, eye, diabetes, skin and autoimmune disorders (40%). The remaining third covers pharmacokinetics, drug metabolism—harmful effects in clinical practice and pathological changes in experimental models.

Each chapter contains a tidy statement of current knowledge, plentiful illustrations, and a good supply of references. Most can only report phenomena, as our understanding is deficient, but others do discuss likely mechanisms involving binding to a specific cytoplasmic protein and downstream consequences on interleukin 2-mediated cell activation and proliferation.

To the basic scientist the book offers a useful but inevitably slightly dated review. For the applied researcher and clinician it provides valuable guidance on the possibilities and problems of treatment. For a compound with such a narrow therapeutic range it is disappointing that almost no author

describes the detail of any dosing regimen used—the drug is just administered! Apart from that lapse, Dr Thomson has provided a book of great use to immunologists and pathologists.

AD DAYAN

**Management of Orbital and Ocular Adnexal Tumours and Inflammations.** Ed JA Mauriello, JC Flanagan. (Pp 285; Hardcover DM 280.00.) Springer. 1990. ISBN 3 540 51155 5.

This is a profoundly disappointing book, which is a great pity because it contains some very good things. These include excellent photomicrographs, clinical illustrations, and gross pathological photographs, many of rare entities, culled from AFIP alumni and from Dr Flanagan's extensive practice. There are also a large number of well organised tables throughout the book. These good points only serve to highlight the deficiencies and chaos of the text. Although designed to be dipped into, rather than read as a whole, the organisation of the text constantly flits from one topic to another and frequently places a whole team of horses before the cart. I asked two "busy ophthalmologists", at whom the book is aimed, to look at it; both found the format and indexing irritating and elusive. From the pathologist's standpoint it is unsatisfactory to have paragraph headings of conditions that are not synonymous and to describe only the first, an example being: angiolymphoid hyperplasia (Kimura's disease, eosinophilic granuloma, eosinophilic folliculosis) when only Kimura's disease is described. Pick out the plums and you will enjoy it. Read it all and you risk indigestion.

ACE McCARTNEY

**Pharmacology—Drug Actions and Reactions.** Ruth R Levine. (Pp 576; soft cover £24.95) Churchill Livingstone. 1990. ISBN 0-316-52217-1

This book is a useful introduction to the concepts of pharmacology and toxicology. Many medical graduates will have covered most of the ideas presented in their undergraduate years. The clinical scientist or MLSO rotating through his or her department's drug analysis section for the first time, however, will find it invaluable. Indeed, the hardest part of writing this review has been prising the book loose from the toxicology section, where it has rapidly become a fixture on the bookshelf alongside Clark, Goodman, and Gilman, the *British National Formulary*, and the *Data Sheet Compendium*. Strongly recommended: a definite "best buy".

ARW FORREST

### Lung Pathology

London, 10–12 June 1991

A comprehensive course of lectures, hands-on microscopy sessions, and a slide seminar will be held at the Brompton Hospital. The programme will include J Wigglesworth on perinatal disease, M Dunnill on defence mechanisms and fibrosis, A Gibbs on pneumoconiosis, C Wagenvoort on hypertension and a variety of internal speakers on airway disease, infections, interstitial disease, angiitis and tumours.

Fee £150 (or US\$290).

Applications to Professor B Corrin, Histopathology, Brompton Hospital, London SW3 6NP.

### Centre for Health Planning and Management

#### Diploma in Management (Diagnostic Services)

Applications are invited for places on this part-time diploma, beginning in October 1991. It is aimed at heads of department and potential heads in Pathology.

The Diploma in Management covers applied management principles, health policy, management of human resources and operations management. It aims to provide the candidate with a sound backing in both scientific and behavioural aspects of management, and the curriculum relates to the NHS of the 1990s and beyond. Potential applicants wishing to discuss the programme further should contact either Professor Roger Dyson or Dr Calum Paton on 0782 621111 (ext 3646).

Further details and full application materials are available from: Tanya Matthews, Centre for Health Planning and Management, Suite 2.1, Science Park, University of Keele, Staffordshire, ST5 5SP

## Corrections

An error appeared in the bottom line of the first column of the table in the letter, "Are calculated globulin measurements useful in screening for paraproteinaemia?" (*J Clin Pathol* 1990;43:694). The correct line should have read:

Specificity =  $TN/FP + TN \times 100 = 96.7\%$ .

Two authors names were omitted from a letter to the Editor, "Breast carcinoma cellularity and its relation to oestrogen receptor content." (*J Clin Pathol* 1989;42:1166–8). The names of P Coy of the Victoria Cancer Clinic, The Cancer Control Agency of British Columbia, and C Fletcher of the Special Development Laboratory, Greater Victoria Hospital Society, should have been included.

## NOTICES

### ACP Locum Bureau

The Association of Clinical Pathologists runs a locum bureau for consultant pathologists.

Applicants with the MRCPATH who would like to do locums and anyone requiring a locum should contact The General Secretary, School of Biological Sciences, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9QC. Tel and Fax: 0273 678435.