
This collection of reviews by a host of German (and a few North American) authors is presented in a high quality format in this, the eighty third volume in the Current Topics in Pathology series. Many of the chapters benefit from lovely illustrations (particularly the three-colour diagrams in the chapter classification of cell receptors, by RD Hesch, and the photomicrographs in the chapter morphological characterisation of cell receptors, by M Dietel). The molecular biology of receptors and oncogenic growth factor receptors is covered in adequate detail, although the fast-moving nature of the subject gives any review with the publication delay inevitably in a multiauthor book an in-built obsolescence. For example, the acid and basic fibroblast growth factors reviewed in this book are now recognised as two members of a family of seven FGF-related growth factors, and there are at least four different FGF receptor genes. There is rather a bias towards steroid receptors, both overall and in the tumour specific chapter on breast and prostate cancers: modern pathologists will be surprised to find no mention of c-erbB-2 or oestrogen growth factor receptor expression in the chapter on breast cancer. There are other notable omissions, such as the fact that retinoic acid receptors and erbA/T, receptors are not considered, despite their growing biological and clinical importance. This book is in good parts, but not good enough to be worth nearly £100.

NR LEMOYNE


This book follows the general philosophy of this series: it tries to standardise the nomenclature of tumours so that findings from one country to another can be compared and understood, both within and between countries, will be reliable. This new edition incorporates investigations using newer techniques. The diagnoses described are not more numerous than in the first edition. The general problems of typing, grading, and staging of tumours are discussed. The role of properly and early tissue fixation to demonstrate fully the gallbladder epithelium is emphasised. Added to this are now the problems of the stripping and destruction of the epithelium during laparoscopic cholecystectomy.

The epithelial tumours—benign, dysplastic, and malignant—are described and also the endocerval cell tumours. This is followed by a section on non-epithelial tumours, benign and malignant, including Kaposi's sarcoma. There follow a miscellany of unclassified tumours and metastases.

The final section describes the tumour-like lesions which are encountered more commonly in everyday practice of surgical pathology. The tumours are SNOMED coded, the photographs are in black and white, plus 10 in colour. The general philosophy of this series is that they should not be regarded as textbooks, thus no references are given.

This is a potentially useful book for recognising the more uncommon tumours of the gallbladder encountered in routine histopathological practice. The detracting feature is the price for 77 pages.

D HOPWOOD

NOTICES

Aspects of alcohol abuse
18 October 1991

Postgraduate Medical Education Centre,
Lincoln County Hospital
East Mercian Branch of Association of Clinical Pathologists
Open to non-members. Will include clinical, medico-legal, and metabolic aspects, and the effect of alcohol on the liver.

Contact: Dr Alan Jackson
Scarborough Hospital
SCARBOROUGH YO12 6QL
Tel: (0723) 368111, ext 2366

Association of Clinical Pathologists Junior Membership

Junior membership of the Association is available to medical practitioners who have been engaged in the practice of pathology for a period of less than four years. Junior members are able to remain in this category for a maximum of six years or on the attainment of consultant status. The annual subscription is £24 for those resident in the United Kingdom and £55 for those overseas. The annual subscription may be claimed against tax.

Junior members receive the Journal of Clinical Pathology each month. Other benefits are reduced registration fees to attend ACP scientific meetings, all the documents regularly sent to full members of the Association including ACP News, which has a regular column for juniors, and the twice yearly summary of pathology courses included in the ACP programme of postgraduate education. Junior members have their own representative body, the Junior Members' Group, which has a direct input to Council.

For Junior Membership apply to: The Honorary Secretary, Association of Clinical Pathologists, School of Biological Sciences, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9QG. (0273) 678435.

Correction


Following the first line in the second paragraph on page 499, fig 3 should be fig 2.