springboard for further exploration, whether towards clinical or basic science, and should be able to borrow one of the library copies. Busy clinicians will probably seek something a bit more crunchy if they are interested and may find it too detailed if they are not. The main competition is *Chapel and Haeney's Clinical Immunology* (Blackwell) and the differences are largely ones of style, each with very evident merits.

This is a welcome addition to the literature: it is a nicely crafted and internally very consistent work which is accessible and eminently readable.

ANTHONY J PINCHING

AIDS and Other Manifestations of HIV Infection. 2nd edn. Ed GP Wormser. (Pp 739; $162.50) Raven Press. 1992. ISBN 0-88167-881-3.

This is a multiauthor North American text which covers many aspects of the epidemiology, virology, immunology, clinical manifestations and pathology of HIV infection. There are also shorter sections on prevention of HIV infection in the workplace and a longer section on treatment of established HIV infection and the prospects for developing an HIV vaccine.

The book is current in that it has been published in 1992, but contains many references to papers published in 1990 and 1991. Much of the information reflects the HIV epidemic and its manifestations in North America. There is little information relating to epidemiology in Europe or in Africa.

The core of the book, and its most valuable feature, is a systematic analysis of the clinical manifestations consequent on HIV infection. The sections on pathology are short and necessarily sketchy; the histopathologist seeking information about HIV infection would be better served seeking a more detailed account. In contrast, there is an extensive section on the nervous system pathology in HIV infection which any general pathologist might find a useful introduction to the range of pathologies that might be found in an HIV infected post mortem examination. The value of this book is that it presents large amounts of clinical information in a single source with a reasonable amount of information about laboratory diagnosis. But I found two aspects of the book disappointing. The pathogenesis of immune deficiency following HIV infection is not well covered; the controversial issues are not laid out or discussed. There seems little in this volume on the events which may follow from HIV infection and which lead to the development of clinical syndromes. A second source of disappointment was the lack of a focused section on prognosis. The assessment of prognosis in an HIV infected patient can be of great importance because it can influence the choice to treat or not to treat and also the choice of treatment protocol. Indeed, when I sought prognosis in the index I was unable to find it. As this is the second edition of this volume, I hope that the editor would address these deficiencies in the next edition. I believe the appeal of this volume would then be greatly expanded because at present it is largely limited to practising clinicians dealing with HIV-infected patients.

AW BOYLSTON

Oxford Textbook of Pathology. Vols 1 and 2 (Paperback edition). Ed JO'D McGee, PG Isaacson, NA Wright. Vols 1, 2a & 2B. (Pp 2344 + indexes.) Vol 1–45; Vol 2a and 2b (to be sold together) £75. Oxford University Press. 1992. ISBN Vol 1 019-261972-1. Vol 2 019-26194-8.

This new arrival from OUP is in three volumes, some 2 000 pages. In some ways this is a physical necessity as each volume weighs about 2 kg. Volume I contains general pathology and volume II systemic pathology. The division is useful as volume I will be reprinted more frequently than the others, with the rapid progress of general pathology. The second volume covers systemic pathology, each section beginning with a description of the normal system, followed by a comprehensive but not encyclopaedic account.

The rationale of this book is given in the preface—the rapid progress in biopsy methods and cell and molecular biology over the past 20 years have changed pathology. The impact on biopsy interpretation is wide and what the student needs to know has changed. The book is aimed at pathologists, established and in training, and at interested clinicians.

The authorship of this book is drawn widely from many active pathologists, mostly from the United Kingdom. The book is, in general, well illustrated in black and white, colour, and with well thought out figures and diagrams. Volume I draws comparison with Alberts *et al's Molecular biology of the cell.*

Omissions can be found. For example, no mechanism is described for melanosis coli, although this has now been explained in terms of drug induced apoptosis. There is no mention of the use of microwaves in tissue preparation and staining. The discussion of cell adhesion molecules is short and there is no mention of confocal microscopy. Publishing lag time has allowed the manuscript to be overtaken by events.

Chapter 30 (diagnostic and investigative technique), dealing with methods which have been found useful to date in pathology, is a good idea. In future editions this could be usefully expanded. Pathologists, so far, have put most of their efforts into dead tissue. This is a valuable and necessary pursuit. Little effort has yet been put into how living tissue, normal and diseased, behaves—for example, using fluorescent probes and tracers. One exception perhaps is the tailoring of chemotherapy on tumour cells in culture from patients. Perhaps this area of living pathology will be exploited in the future.

This book is an attempt to relate the discoveries in cell and molecular biology to pathological and clinical observation. This is achieved in volume I. Volume II is a more difficult task, but a start has been made.

I certainly recommend this book for anyone who wants to understand the pathology, as opposed to simply describing it. It should find its way into all pathology libraries and, hopefully, the ideas will find their way into the minds of pathologists and clinicians.

D HOPWOOD

Clinical Virology in Oral Medicine and Dentistry. C Scully, L Samaranayake. (Pp 489; £95.) Cambridge University Press. 1992. ISBN 0 521 40102 X.

As the title indicates, this volume primarily considers those viral infections relevant to dentistry and oral medicine. I am not aware of any text which could compete, and as such it should deservedly find a home in every relevant hospital department and dental school. It contains far more than the title suggests, however, with easily readable chapters on fundamental virology including consideration of structure, replication, host defences, diagnosis and treatment.

General clinical microbiologist or virologists are often asked advice about infections in dentistry, and I shall welcome having this book to hand. It is difficult to find elsewhere adequate discussions of the oral manifestations of such viruses as varicella zoster, herpes simplex and papillomaviruses. Hepatitis viruses and human immunodeficiency virus are covered in detail and document the protean oral manifestation of the latter virus. Also included are chapters on control of infection procedures for the dental surgery and a thought provoking discussion of conditions which may just have a virus aetiology. The text is well illustrated with copious use of tables and excellent diagrams.

I would strongly advise all departments which provide a virus diagnostic service to obtain a copy.

P MORGAN-CAPNER

Diagnostic Molecular Pathology. A Practical Approach. Volume II. Ed CS Herrington, JO'D McGee. (Pp 218; £22.50) Oxford University Press. 1992. ISBN 0-19-963238-3.

As molecular pathology moves from research to diagnostic laboratories (if such a distinction should be made), there will be a necessity for books such as this second volume in the pair entitled *Diagnostic Molecular Pathology*. The intention is to provide diagnostic pathologists with a repertoire of modern methods.

The expert contributors to volume II cover, first, general techniques of extracting RNA and DNA, preparing and labelling probes, RNA and DNA hybridisation, polymerase chain reaction, and DNA sequencing. They then deal with specific applications, such as detection of HPV, human identification by RFLP analysis, and detection of point mutations, of gene amplification and of loss of heterozygosity. There are numerous clearly written protocols, accompanied by discursive explanatory text, and followed by references to relevant literature. An appendix lists the names and addresses of suppliers of specialist items. The index is comprehensive.

I cannot fault this modestly priced book, but perhaps future editions might include approximate times for the longer protocols, rather like in a recipe book ("20 minutes preparation, 40 minutes cooking"), and some guidance on essential equipment. Strongly recommended.

JCE UNDERWOOD