

# JOURNAL OF CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

The Journal of the Association of Clinical Pathologists  
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neoplasms as a whole, rather than scattered through the various sections of larger texts. The first few chapters hold the key to this and show how far things have progressed since the APUD concept held sway. The opening chapter discusses modern morphological and other investigative methods and is a model of clarity and brevity. There is also a useful summary of oncogenes and neuroendocrine tumours; however, the chapters on "Peptide physiology of human cancer cells and its relationship with autocrine/paracrine growth" and "Transgenic models of neuroendocrine tumours" were a bit heavy on experimental details and somewhat indigestible.

The remaining chapters cover neuroendocrine tumours in most situations. They are all written by experts and provide a wealth of information for the surgical pathologist. The approach varies slightly, but for a book with 26 different authors Professor Polak has managed to maintain consistently high quality throughout. It is difficult to single out any particular section, but I have already had reason to be grateful for Dr Ljungberg's chapter on "Thyroid and parathyroid tumours". This is full of useful practical details and excellent colour illustrations. He even includes his own recipe for oil-red O (for staining parathyroids).

In the lung, where heterogeneity is the rule, the overlap between malignant neuroendocrine tumours and carcinomas is well recognised, and here it is well described by Dr Sheppard. In other organs, such as the gastrointestinal tract, it is less frequently seen and less well documented. Most of us have probably seen a few examples of combined tumours and yet this is an area that receives very little attention in this book. Small cell carcinoma and combined tumours in the urinary tract are not mentioned, and the thymus, which occasionally produces fascinating malignant carcinoid tumours, is also excluded. This is a minor criticism of an otherwise excellent book but I am slightly disappointed that this difficult histogenetic territory remains unexplored.

It has to be said that most of us do not encounter neuroendocrine tumours on a daily basis and the limited funds that we have for buying books have to be used cautiously. At £95 this one is not cheap and would probably not receive high priority in most departments. However, it has no real competitors, and if you are able to permit yourself the occasional indulgence I recommend that you add it to your list.

BJ ADDIS

**Recent Advances in Blood Coagulation**—6. Ed L Poller. (Pp 228; 60 illustrations; hardback £39.95.) Churchill Livingstone. 1993. ISBN 0-443-04755-3.

The high standards set by the preceding five volumes have been surpassed by *Recent Advances*—6. This series aims to present a regular and comprehensive overview of this wide ranging field, and has sustained this by combining judicious selection of topics and reviewers with a remarkably short incubation period. This latter attribute lends a freshness to the contributions which is unusual in this genre.

Brommer *et al* present a contemporary practical view of fibrinolysis which culminates in an amusing entreaty against despair, presumably for those left perplexed in spite of this article. Reviews on platelets and molecular markers of in vivo coagulation succinctly describe the notable advances in understanding of biochemical processes in these areas. Bowen and Bloom's article on factor VIII is both instructive and provocative, drawing attention as it does to the need for a clearer understanding of the structure-function implications of mutations in this and other disorders. Reviews on lupus anticoagulants, tissue factor pathway inhibitor, antiplatelet agents, and non-heparin antithrombotics each represent measured views by acknowledged experts, and an article covering the clinically challenging area of thrombosis in infancy is a welcome addition to the sparse literature. It is to be hoped that Poller and Thomson's plea for universal implementation of INR will at last be heard, although this publication may not be the ideal vehicle to "reach those parts ...". The concluding section on key papers from 1991/1992 adds little to the reviews and is the weakest element of an otherwise excellent publication.

In short, this book is thoroughly recommended for all with an interest in blood coagulation, generalists and specialists alike.

SB DAVIES

**Neoplasms of the Larynx.** Ed A Ferlito. (Pp 634; 346 illustrations; £120.) Churchill Livingstone. 1993. ISBN 0-443-04571-2.

This is a reference book of immense value. The main author has previously edited a three volume book entitled *Cancer of the Larynx* and has this time assembled an international team of authorities, mostly from the USA but with 10 authors from the UK. This is not only a book for pathologists—chapters also cover epidemiology and many aspects of clinical management—it is almost like a pathology book and a clinical book bound together within one cover. The essence of the former is contained in 14 of the 36 chapters, which cover the tumour types including such useful aspects as atypical forms of squamous cell carcinoma, rarer tumours, the use of immunohistochemical markers, and a review of the current TNM classifications. For pathologists, the clinical chapters act as an invaluable source of reference as to what are the main treatment consequences of the various tumour diagnostic labels. The pictures are of exceptional quality and include excellent photomicrographs, photos of macroscopic specimens, large numbers of endoscopic pictures, diagnostic imaging pictures, and many excellent diagrams. This reviewer's favourite clinical picture shows a Japanese patient with a flexible fibre optic endoscope up his nostril, which reminds one of a well-known Japanese television game of endurance and humiliation. The only serious omission for pathologists is the lack of a good description of how to cut up and sample a laryngectomy specimen. However, this is a minor criticism. This is an excellent book which needs to be available to any histopathologist who serves an active ENT clinical team.

JWB BRADFELD

## 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, 221 Preston Road, Brighton BN1 6SA. Tel (0273) 561188. Fax (0273) 541227.

### 1st International Congress of Paediatric Sports Medicine September 4-10 1994 Verau, Austria

Further details from: Dr Peter H Schober, Department of Pediatric Surgery, Auenbruggerplatz 34, A-8036 LKH-Graz/Austria/EUROPE. Tel.: (0)316/385-3762. Fax: (0)316/385-3775.

### Institute of Biomedical Science IBMS Symposia

7-8 July 1994, London  
Annual Virology Symposium: *Diagnostic virology update 1994*.

Mr J Bertrand, IBMS London Region Virology Discussion Group, c/o Virology Department, St Thomas's Hospital, Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EH.

24 September 1994, Gateshead  
*Cell marking SIDG '94*

Mr G Jane, IBMS Durham Branch, c/o Blood Transfusion Department, Pathology, Sunderland District General Hospital, Kayll Rd, Sunderland; tel 091-569 9077.

11 March 1995, Oxford  
*Bone marrow transplantation*

Ms E C Anderson IBMS, Oxford Branch, c/o Microbiology/PHL, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford OX3 9DU.

29 October-3 November 1995,  
Birmingham IBMS Congress

Miss Heather Tate, IBMS, 12 Coldbath Square, London EC1R 5HL; tel 071-636 8192.

### The Leeds Course in Clinical Nutrition including a Mini-Symposium on Nutrition in early life—relevance to adults

St James's University Hospital, Leeds  
6-9 September 1994

Details from: Mrs Hilary L. Thackray, Department of Continuing Professional Education, Continuing Education Building, Springfield Mount, Leeds LS2 9NG. Telephone: 0532 333233.

### Symposium Mammographicum 94 13-15 July 1994, University of York, United Kingdom

For a copy of the Provisional Programme and registration form, please contact:

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