

Case	Age	Sex	Clinical details	Direct microscopy	Culture	<i>B. cereus</i> type	Toxin* category
1	23	F	Diabetic with abscesses of the neck	Pus cells present. Gram-positive cocci	(1) <i>Staph. epidermidis</i> (2) <i>B. cereus</i>	NT	4
2	37	M	Wound infection with necrosis under POP 1 month after orthopaedic surgery to foot	No pus cells. Numerous Gram-positive cocci and moderate numbers of Gram-negative rods	(1) <i>Staph. aureus</i> (2) <i>B. cereus</i>	20	4
3	35	M	Wound infection—necrosis tissue and ulceration leading to a communication with the knee joint, after patellectomy for trauma	Pus cells present. No organisms seen	(1) <i>B. cereus</i>	20	5
4	31	F	Pyrexia and wound infection—at the site of Caesarian section and later reimplantation of ureter	Numerous pus cells and Gram-positive rods	(1) <i>B. cereus</i> (2) Scanty <i>Proteus</i> sp.	NT	2

*Categories 4 and 5 represent strong production of the toxin (as measured by a vascular permeability reaction, including skin necrosis). Categories 2 and 3 represent intermediate production, and 1 weak production.

Book reviews

Oncogenesis and Herpesviruses, III. Part 1. Edited by G. de Thé, W. Henle, and F. Rapp. (Pp 580; illustrated; \$30, Sw. Fr. 50.) Lyon: I.A.R.C. Publications no. 24. 1978.

This book is the proceedings of the third symposium on 'Oncogenesis and Herpesviruses'—in this instance held in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1977. It is not a book for most clinical pathologists, being a collection of papers on the molecular biology of herpesviruses. However, for the specialist research worker in the field, it is invaluable and contains some of the exciting developments that have taken place in recent years. These are largely due to the introduction of techniques such as restriction enzyme analysis, and the results of its application to herpes DNA are to be found throughout the contents. Thus these are papers describing the mapping of genes coding for virus-specified polypeptides on the viral genome and the characterisation of virus DNA from transformed cells. The scope of the papers is of course wider than this, and there are sections which deal with virus antigens and virus macromolecular synthesis in permissive and non-permissive cells. The bulk of the papers are on herpes simplex virus, but there are sizable contributions on Epstein-Barr virus, cytomegalovirus, and a few of the animal herpesviruses. The only criticism I have is that some of the papers have been overtaken by publications in scientific journals, and the book would have been of greater value if it had been

possible to publish it in one year rather than two years after the symposium took place.

MORAG C TIMBURY

Oncogenesis and Herpesviruses, III. Part 2. Edited by G. de Thé, W. Henle, and F. Rapp. (Pp 522; illustrated; \$30, Sw. Fr. 50.) Lyon: I.A.R.C. Publications no. 24. 1978.

The second part of the symposium will be of greater interest to medical readers since it is on host-virus interactions, both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Epstein-Barr virus dominates the papers, although other human herpesviruses, as well as those of various animal species, are included. Possibly the most interesting contributions to a clinical pathologist are those which deal with latency and with the immune response to Epstein-Barr virus infection. Both these fields are 'growth points' at present, and this book contains much new and interesting data on them. Although not a book for the general reader, it will be indispensable for workers in the field, which includes not only herpes virologists, but the larger number of workers involved in the investigation of the role of viruses in cancer.

MORAG C TIMBURY

Contributions to Nephrology. Vol 15. 'Nephrologic Problems of the Newborn'. Ed JF Pascual and PL Calcagno. (Pp vi + 77; illustrated; Sw Fr 35.) Basel: S Karger. 1979.

This slim volume is the product of a

symposium on paediatric nephrology, held in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in May 1976 under the guidance of Dr JF Pascual of San Juan and Dr PL Calcagno of Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA. It consists of review articles by well-established figures in paediatric nephrology (Edelmann, McCrory, Arneil, Gruskin, Pascual, Calcagno) on nephrological topics related to the newborn.

This is an example of secondary literature in that most of the authors have presented their material in a more definitive form elsewhere. The volume will be of little interest to those who are conversant with the field, and of little value to those who are not. The sterling price is not quoted but must be at least £10. At 15p per page the temptation to illegal use of the Xerox will be strong.

TM BARRATT

Advances in Shock Research. Vol 1. Ed AM Lefer, T Saba, and LM Mela. Vol 2. Ed W Schumer, JJ Spitzer, and BE Marshall. Vol 1 (Pp xv + 285; illustrated; \$30.00.) Vol 2 (Pp xvii + 298; illustrated; \$30.00.) New York: Alan R Liss Inc. 1979.

These two volumes are the proceedings of a conference on shock held in Airlie, Virginia in June 1978. The papers in Volume 1 range over a variety of aspects concerned with hypovolaemic (oligaemic), cardiogenic, and splanchnic shock, and related aspects of hypoxia and ischaemia. Its introductory chapter is by Richard Lillehei, who gives an interesting historical analysis of induced vasodilatation for

treating shock and other low-flow circulatory states. The subject matter ranges widely from physiological studies like those on venous compliance, cerebral metabolism, and ultrastructural studies on the kidney at necropsy to the effects of prostaglandins, steroids, zymosan, glucagon, and other natural and unnatural agents on treatment. Volume 2 is largely concerned with traumatic, endotoxic, and septic shock, and its introductory chapter is by HB Stoner on the responses to injury, past research, and future plans.

In both volumes the great majority of the papers are based on animal experiments, though there are notable exceptions concerned with human studies. Unfortunately the contents lists have been placed in the wrong books which makes for a little confusion. It is clear that the shock models used at the present time are much the same as they were 30 years ago, and it is still difficult to conclude that results obtained in mice are automatically referable to man. Nevertheless, there are some interesting papers on organ responses and on trials of newer pharmacological agents. The editorial work was divided up for the two volumes and was adequate in both cases. The publishers have requested reviewers to state that for readers in the United Kingdom, Europe, and the Middle East the books are available through European Book Service, each volume at the equivalent of 90 Dutch guilders. The volumes are primarily for those involved in one or other aspects of the shock field, which includes many clinicians and too few pathologists.

SIMON SEVITT

Contributions to Nephrology. Vol 17. 'Today's Art of Peritoneal Dialysis'. Ed A Trevino-Becerra and FST Boen. (Pp x + 150; illustrated; Sw Fr 75.) Basel: S Karger. 1979.

This book, although not of primary interest to clinical pathologists, is nonetheless an important development in the field of renal failure. Peritoneal dialysis, after being very much a temporary form of treatment, has now come into its own again with the advent of suitable equipment and techniques for chronic ambulatory peritoneal dialysis at home. In this era of increasing financial restriction this can only be of considerable interest to nephrologists all over the world. The book is the proceedings of a symposium bringing together experts in the field. A number of groups describe their experience

in using chronic peritoneal dialysis both in hospital and at home and show a surprisingly low incidence of serious complications. A problem of the past, protein loss, seems now to have been largely conquered by adequate diet and suitable infusion fluids. Advances in technology have diminished the risk of infections.

The use of peritoneal dialysis in the treatment of drug poisoning is summarised as a short but useful paper. A number of papers are devoted to the more basic aspects such as the effect of dialysis solutions on the microcirculation, on models for predicting transport of molecules across the peritoneum, and on nitrogen metabolism in patients with peritoneal dialysis. A useful and comprehensive paper describes the dietary management of patients on peritoneal dialysis.

In summary it may be said that this book highlights an important redevelopment in the management of patients with chronic renal disease but does in fact contain a fair amount of repetitious material, particularly in the papers describing the experience of a number of different groups in managing patients by this technique. However, the book will be of considerable interest to pathologists directly involved with such patients, particularly chemical pathologists.

JT WHICHER

Atlas of Laparoscopy and Biopsy of the Liver. M Bruguera, JM Bordas, and J Rodes. (Pp xii + 215; illustrated; £32.50.) Philadelphia, London, Toronto: WB Saunders. 1979.

A number of atlases on various aspects of hepatology have appeared recently, directed at clinician and pathologist alike, and they appear to have enjoyed considerable success. The present text is a further addition along these lines, combining the macroscopic appearances of the liver as seen at laparoscopy with the microscopic appearances seen on needle biopsy material. It represents the work of the distinguished hepatology unit of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Barcelona. To a morbid anatomist, familiar only with the dull macroscopic appearances as seen at necropsy, the laparoscopic illustrations in the book have been a vital and visual delight. It does seem a pity that laparoscopic examination of the liver has been used on only a very limited scale in this country; the advantages to be derived

from direct visualisation and from direct biopsy under these conditions would seem to be considerable. The coloured photomicrographs are not of the same uniformly high standards as the laparoscopic illustrations, and in this aspect the atlas is perhaps less distinguished than others available. As is almost inevitable with translated books, the text is a little stilted in parts. It is irritating to find reticulin, reticulum, and reticular appearing as freely interchangeable variations on the same theme.

RNM MACSWEEN

IMPORTANT CORRECTION

Microbial Disease; the use of the laboratory in diagnosis, therapy, and control. DAJ Tyrrell, I Phillips, C Steward Goodwin, and R Blowers. (Pp x + 340; illustrated; £16.00.) Edward Arnold, 1979.

This book was reviewed in the January issue (*J Clin Pathol* 1980;33:99). The publishers draw attention to the following correction:

page 279 under heading Treatment, line 5: delete the words 'or intravenously'.

page 293 six lines from the bottom: for 700m³ read 7m³.

All books should be returned to: Mr M Husk (Trade Department), Edward Arnold (Publishers) Ltd, Woodlands Park Avenue, Woodlands Park, Maidenhead, Berks. They will be corrected and returned with a refund of postage.



Advances in Shock Research

Simon Sevitt

J Clin Pathol 1980 33: 315-316

doi: 10.1136/jcp.33.3.315-d

Updated information and services can be found at:

<http://jcp.bmj.com/content/33/3/315.4.citation>

These include:

**Email alerting
service**

Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

Notes

To request permissions go to:

<http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions>

To order reprints go to:

<http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform>

To subscribe to BMJ go to:

<http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/>