

Book Reviews

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End Points for Cardiovascular Drug Studies, Vol 12 of *Atherosclerosis Reviews*, ed by Ruth Johnsson Hegyeli, New York, Raven Press, 1985, 200 pages, \$49.50.

This book is a summary of a 1983 conference. The contributions are divided equally between investigators from Italy and the United States. Unfortunately, the publication of these submitted papers doomed the possibility of an integrated approach. A clear structure might have been achieved by only publishing contributions from a limited number of specialists in diverse fields (such as clinical cardiology, clinical pharmacology, epidemiology, lipid metabolism, and coagulation and platelet function) or the inclusion of a comprehensive chapter by the editor reviewing the entire field of end points and putting the contributions into perspective. Some of the chapters clearly relate to the subject, but others stray from the intended mark. Clinical studies of atherosclerotic disease and arrhythmias, biological end points, and monitoring techniques (primarily ultrasound) are the main subjects discussed. Although many chapters would be interesting to a clinical cardiologist, readers who have a strong interest in end points for drug studies will be disappointed.

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Cardiovascular Radiology, by Eugene Gedgaudas, James H. Moller, Wilfrido R. Castaneda-Zuniga, and Kurt Amplatz, Philadelphia, W. B. Saunders, 1985, 269 pages, \$44.95.

Cardiovascular Radiology is a comprehensive work illustrated with well-selected radiographic and echocardiographic examples pertinent to the subject.

The initial four chapters set the stage for the remaining sections that deal with congenital and acquired cardiac disease. This book begins with an excellent review of cardiac embryology, which is complemented by extremely good diagrams of the development of the heart, great arteries, and systemic and pulmonary arterial and venous systems. A discussion

of fetal circulation and a short description of cardiac anatomy are also included in the first chapter. The second chapter describes cardiac hemodynamics with emphasis on auscultatory physiology. The discussion of cardiac catheterization primarily deals with various pressure measurements and oximetric data. Notably absent is a section about contrast materials and catheterization techniques. The third chapter is a good discussion of echocardiography. Chapter 4 evaluates the radiographic cardiac silhouette in the posteroanterior, lateral, and both oblique positions; identification of specific chamber enlargement is emphasized.

Chapters 5 through 10 deal with congenital heart disease and use pulmonary vascularity as the key to classification. Evaluation of valvular abnormalities on plain views of the thorax, focusing on identification of valvular prostheses, is covered in the eleventh chapter. The final two chapters, entitled "Acquired Myocardial and Pericardial Disease" and "Acquired Vascular Disease," are excellent.

In general, *Cardiovascular Radiology* is extremely well written and would be a valuable addition to the personal library of both aspiring cardiologists and radiologists.

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Physiology of the Intestinal Circulation, ed by A. P. Shephard and D. N. Granger, New York, Raven Press, 1984, 440 pages, \$76.00.

As stated in the preface, the editors of this book wanted to devote an entire text to the intestinal circulation—an area which had been relegated to a secondary position when compared to coronary or cerebral circulation. Their efforts have been successful.

The book is divided into five sections. The first and second sections (Blood Flow Regulation and Hemodynamics, and Intestinal Transcapillary Exchange) deal in great detail with various aspects of the regulation of intestinal blood flow. Some parts are difficult to understand and may seem irrelevant to the clinical

cian. However, every aspect of intestinal circulation is treated adequately. The third part (Mathematical Models) deals, in three chapters, with the methods and procedures used to study intestinal circulation and how to analyze the results. This section is hard to follow, but is valuable for people involved in experimentation in the field. The fourth and fifth sections (Pathophysiology and Pharmacology) are relevant to any clinician, researcher, or any individual interested in intestinal circulation and intestinal pathophysiology.

There are several points of interest in every chapter for everyone. The material is clearly written and well edited. The index is extensive, and the references are numerous. The illustrations are reproduced excellently, and the print is pleasant to read.

I suspect that *Physiology of the Intestinal Circulation* will have a limited audience because it is so detailed and technical, but it is undoubtedly an excellent reference text.

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Candidiasis, ed by Victor Fainstein and Gerald P. Bodey, New York, Raven Press, 1984, 290 pages, \$43.00.

This book covers comprehensively a difficult topic—infections with *Candida* sp. The editors gathered a number of experts in the field to assemble an ideal reference book for clinicians, infectious disease specialists, and laboratory workers who are interested in this fungal disease. This book is divided into 15 chapters and includes discussions of clinical infection and disease; laboratory diagnosis; mycology, immunology, serology, and epidemiology; radiology; prevention; and chemotherapy. There is also a chapter devoted to animal research with *Candida* sp that has a concise but thorough overview of experimental models and how they may relate to human disease.

The chapters dealing with clinical disease cover subjects from colonization to disseminated disease (cutaneous to systemic involvement). Case reports are included to demonstrate a variety of clinical presentations. There is some redundancy in these chapters, especially in regard to pathogenesis and laboratory diagnosis, however, each chapter is designed to stand alone. Statistics about incidence and outcome of various disease are plentiful throughout the book.

The chapters about laboratory diagnosis and mycology give much in-depth material, although the book is not designed to be used as a procedure manual. The information dealing with serological testing is up to date and thorough and, where necessary, comments are made pertaining to the validity of certain tests and their interpretation.

Each chapter is well referenced. An attempt is

made, however, to not merely present information or quote other authors, but rather to integrate studies and give opinions about the conclusions made. Since the authors of these chapters are leading experts in the study of candidiasis, they introduce much of their own work and results of both experience and research. This makes the text valuable as a reference tool and service book.

There are, however, a couple of topics which have not been addressed, although their absence does not detract greatly from the overall quality of this book. No information is given about the methodology or interpretation of in vitro susceptibility testing. There are lengthy discussions of antifungal agents and their use prophylactically and chemotherapeutically, but no discussion of laboratory testing. The methods for fungal susceptibilities are presently nonstandardized and the results are confusing, but for completeness, reference to them should have been included. The authors should have described their beliefs about such testing, the need for such testing, and the way in which interpretation is attempted. The use of liposomal amphotericin B for treatment is also not mentioned.

Candidiasis will make an excellent addition to the library of clinicians and laboratory workers interested in a concise but thorough reference book about candidiasis.

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Intensive Therapy, by Gillian C. Hanson, H. E. R. Chew, and C. S. Waldman, Oxford, England, Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1985, 261 pages, \$9.95.

The purpose of this volume, as stated by the publisher, is to supplement rather than replace existing information.

The book consists of four sections. The general introduction describes the function of the intensive care unit, indications for admission, monitoring, and various treatment policies. The second portion is a discussion of organ system failures. The third section of the book deals with shock, and the fourth section is a brief discussion of more specific problems which one might encounter in the intensive care unit.

Intensive Therapy should serve as a beginning study guide for the student or practitioner who desires a more in depth knowledge of the critically ill patient. Although not complete, the tables are interesting and should serve as a stimulus to explore many of the outlined points in more detail. References are limited and are not placed in a manner that allows the reader to go from specific points within the text to the citations directly. The approach to the care of patients