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*Gut* publishes original papers and reviews concerned with practice and research in the field of gastroenterology. The field is that of alimentary, hepatic, or pancreatic disease, and papers may cover the medical, surgical, radiological, or historical aspects. They may also deal with the basic sciences concerned with the alimentary tract, including experimental work. The report of a single case will be accepted only if it is of sufficient interest in relation to a wider field of research.

**COMMUNICATIONS** Two copies of papers and figures should be addressed to the Editor, *Gut*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JR. Papers are accepted only on the understanding that they are not published elsewhere without previous sanction of the Editorial Committee. Manuscripts should follow the Vancouver conventions (see *Br Med J* 1979; 1: 532-5. *Gut* 1979; 20: 651-2). They should be in double-spaced typewriting on one side of the paper only. On the paper the name of the author should appear with initials (or distinguishing Christian name) only, and the name and address of the hospital or laboratory where the work was performed. A short summary should be provided at the beginning of the paper.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS** Manuscripts will not be acknowledged unless a stamped addressed postcard or international reply coupon is enclosed.

**ILLUSTRATIONS** *Photographs* Unmounted photographs on glossy paper should be provided. *Diagrams* These will usually be reduced to 2½ in wide. Lettering should be in either Letraset or stencil, and care should be taken that lettering and symbols are of comparable size. Illustrations should not be inserted in the text, they should be marked on the back with Figure numbers, title of paper, and name of author. All photographs, graphs, and diagrams should be referred to as Figures and should be numbered consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals. The legends for illustrations should be typed on a separate sheet. *Tables* Tables should be numbered consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals and each typed on a separate sheet.

**ETHICS** Ethical considerations will be taken into account in the assessment of papers (see the Medical Research Council's publications on the ethics of human experimentation, and the World Medical Association's code of ethics, known as the Declaration of Helsinki (see *Br Med J* 1964; 2: 177).

**SI UNITS** All measurements except blood pressure are expressed in SI units. In the text they should be followed by traditional units in parentheses. In tables and illustrations values are given only in SI units, but a conversion factor must be supplied. For general guidance on the International System of Units, and some useful conver-

sion factors, see *The SI for the Health Professions* (WHO, 1977). Such conversion is the responsibility of the author.

**REFERENCES** These follow the Vancouver system—that is, references numbered consecutively in the text and listed numerically with titles abbreviated in the style of *Index Medicus. Standard journal article*—(list all authors when six or less; when seven or more, list first three and add *et al.*): James A, Joyce B, Harvey T. Effect of long-term cimetidine. *Gut* 1979; 20: 123-4. **NB: Accurate punctuation is essential.**

**CORRECTIONS** other than printer's errors may be charged to the author.

**REPRINTS** Twenty-five reprints will be supplied free of charge. Further reprints will be available on payment of the necessary costs; the number of reprints required should be sent to the Publishing Manager on the form provided with the proof.

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## Notes and activities

**BSG Research Award 1980**

Five hundred word summaries of personal research work are invited by the Research Committee who will recommend to Council the recipient of the award for 1980. The award consists of a medal and £100 prize. Entrants must be 40 years or less (on 31 December 1980) but need not be a member of the BSG. All (or a substantial part) of the work must have been performed in the UK or Eire. The recipient will be required to deliver a 40 minute lecture at the Plenary Session of the Spring meeting in 1981. Applications (six copies) should be made to: The Honorary Secretary, BSG, The Rayne Institute, 5 University Street, London WC1E 6JJ, no later than 1 November 1980.

**International Symposium: Verdict on Vagotomy**

This symposium will take place from 19–21 February, 1981, Basel, Switzerland. Details from Dr Claude Müller, Department of Surgery, University of Basel, Kantonsspital, CH-4031 Basel, Switzerland.

**International Symposium: The Endocrines and the Liver,**

This will be held in Rome, 15–17 June 1981. Details from Professor L Chiandussi and Professor M Langer, Istituto di Patologia Medica, Viale San Pietro 12, 07100 Sassari, Italy.

**Complete volumes of Gut**

Swets & Zeitlinger, P.O. Box 810, 2160 SZ Lisse, The Netherlands has available from stock volumes 1–6 of *Gut*. If sufficient interest exists volumes 7–16 will be reprinted in the near future. Please address your enquiries to the above-mentioned company.

## Books

**Nuclear Medicine: A Clinical Introduction** By M N Maisey. (Pp 144. Illustrated, £9.95) Update Books: London. 1980.

The book contains a wealth of information and will appeal to a wide readership. The author's main aim has been to produce a much-needed clinical introduction to techniques for the investigation and functional assessment of clinical problems, but, as such, it is a pity that the description of isotopes has been restricted to imaging. The other aims—to examine the relationship of these techniques to existing methods and discussion of future developments—have not been so well covered. The book is compiled from a series of articles extensively illustrated with colour and monochrome pictures as well as graphs of computer-processed data. Unfortunately, some of the pictures of radiographs and scans are of poor quality.

After a general introduction on equipment and methods, chapters deal with investigation of systems and organs. For the general physician, these provide a lot of useful up-to-date information, with particularly good sections on nuclear cardiology and the thyroid. The chapter on renal disease, however, overlooks the use of iodinated hippuran and provides only a very limited description of the assessment of renal transplant recipients. From the gastroenterologist's viewpoint, the chapter on the liver and spleen is very limited with insufficient clinical application, or relationship to other tests. Despite many hepatobiliary agents being in wide use, this topic is only mentioned as a future development. Another minor criticism is that there is no mention of gastrointestinal-transit, protein or blood loss.

Despite these criticisms, the author has largely succeeded in the difficult task of producing a clinical introduction which will be of value to clinicians, hospital physicists, and technicians.

JOHN WYKE

**Frontiers of Knowledge in the Diarrheal Diseases** H D Janowitz and D B Sachar. (Pp 383. Illustrated. Price not stated). Projects in Health, Inc: Upper Montclair, New Jersey. 1979.

These are the proceedings of a sponsored conference held in London in November 1978. Twenty-nine of the 31 participants

came from outside the United Kingdom. The main emphasis concerns basic cellular and molecular mechanisms of diarrhoea, rather than clinical problems. The book is divided into five main sections: mechanisms of intestinal secretion; receptor-ligand interactions in the pathogenesis of bacterial diarrhoeas; mechanisms of intestinal motility; mediators of diarrhoeal disorders; and therapeutic implications. There are 29 papers, mostly review articles with full references, which will interest the science-orientated clinician.

R E POUNDER

## Books received

**Gut Peptides** Edited by Akima Miyoshi (Pp. 414; illustrated; \$73.25) Elsevier/North-Holland: Amsterdam. 1980.

**Gastrointestinal Motility** Edited by James Christensen (Pp. 513; illustrated; price not stated) Raven Press: New York. 1980.

**Digestive Physiology and Metabolism in Ruminants** Edited by Yves Ruckebusch and Pierre Thivend (Pp. 854; illustrated; £29.95) MTP Press: Lancs. 1980.

**Frontiers of Hormone Research: The Entero-Insular Axis** Edited by W Greutzfeldt (Pp. 310; illustrated; \$69.00) Karger: Basel. 1980.

**Orotic Acid** By Alois Cihak and Werner Reutter (Pp. 118; £9.95) MTP Press: Lancs. 1980.

**Stomach Cancer UICC Technical Report Series, Vol. 34** Edited by D W Piper (Pp. 138; illustrated; price not stated) UICC: Geneva. 1978.

**Gastrointestinal and Related Hormones** Edited by G Walters and S R Bloom. Supplement to *J Clin Pathol* (Pp. 94; illustrated; £5) BMA: London. 1980.

**Toxic Injury of the Liver Parts A and B** Edited by Emmanuel Farber and Murray M Fisher (Pp. 885; illustrated; SFr. 188) Dekker: New York. 1979.