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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. A case report will be accepted only if it deals with a clinical problem which has been studied in detail and the resulting data provide material for further 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 written understanding, signed by all authors, that they are not published elsewhere without previous sanction of the Editorial Committee, and that all authors agree to publication in *Gut*. 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 first 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.

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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 value are given in SI units, but a conversion factor must be supplied. For general guidance on the

International System of Units and some useful conversion factors, see *The SI for the Health Professions* (WHO, 1977). **NB: 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 printers' errors may be charged to the author.

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14 Rubenstein MD, Wall RT, Wood GS, Edwards MA.
Complications of therapeutic apheresis, including a

fatal case with pulmonary vascular occlusion. *Am J Med* 1983; **75**: 171-4.

Forthcoming Scientific Meetings of the British Society of Gastroenterology

Brighton 20-22 March 1985

Newcastle-upon-Tyne 18-20 September 1985

Lancaster 9-11 April 1986

Cardiff 24-26 September 1986

London 15-18 September 1987

*For details of registration please contact: The Administrative Secretary,
British Society of Gastroenterology, Rayne Institute, 5 University
Street, London, WC1E 6JJ. Tel: (44: country code) 01-387-3534.*

- Chromium-51-EDTA and Technetium-99-m DTPA for assessment of small bowel Crohn's disease. *J Nucl Med* 1984; **25**: 60P.
- 6 Maxton DG, Bjarnason I, Reynolds AP, Peters TJ, Menzies IS. Comparison of four different markers of intestinal permeability. I. Effect of detergent and test dose osmolarity. *Clin Sci* 1984; **67**: 65P.
- 7 Newton JA, Maxton DG, Bjarnason I, *et al.* Intestinal permeability in eczema. *Clin Sci* 1984; **67**: 64-5P.
- 8 Jenkins RT, Goodacre RL, Rooney PR, Hunt RM, Bienstock J. Intestinal permeability in inflammatory disease. [Abstract] *Gut* 1984; **25**: A1166-7

Books

Clinics in immunology and allergy Vol 3 No 3 **Natural mechanisms of immunity** Edited by R B Heberman. (Pp. 571; illustrated; £11.75.) Eastbourne: W B Saunders, 1983.

This is a new series of *Clinics* which was introduced in 1982. It follows the familiar format and this particular volume is devoted to reviewing the mechanisms of natural immunity. Triggering of immunological effector mechanisms is usually considered to result from exposure to antigen. These mechanisms may be cellular, mediated by sensitised T cells, or humoral, mediated by sensitised B cells. Certain immunological reactivity, however, can be detected in individuals which have not been intentionally immunised - this is termed 'natural immunity'.

The first two chapters review the evidence for naturally occurring antibody to oncogenic viruses and tumour cells, both in animals and man. The possible origin of these antibodies and their role in controlling viral infections and in tumour surveillance is extensively discussed. These chapters are followed by a concise account of the complement system and the clinical syndromes resulting from deficiencies of the complement components. The role of the gastrointestinal tract in preventing antigen-entry into the body is covered by R J Levinsky. The rest of the volume deals with natural killer cell activity and its role in tumour immunity, the production of interferon by natural killer cells, and the role of macrophages in cancer surveillance and in controlling infection.

This volume is full of information and is, in general, well presented. It is certainly not intended for the general reader but those with some immunological knowledge will find some excellent reviews here.

D P JEWELL

Diagnostic ultrasound in gastroenterology Edited by L Bolondi, G Labo, and L Gandolfi. (Pp. 544; illustrated; £48.) Fotocromo Emiliana: Bologna, 1984.

The Italians have taken a keen interest in ultrasound for many years, and with sales of ultrasound equipment almost three times as great as in the United Kingdom. The authors are all very experienced in ultrasound but are gastroenterologists rather than radiologists.

The book is an instructional text for those performing and interpreting abdominal ultrasound. There is very little clinical material or clinical discussion. This is surprising considering the background of the authors and I think that few of my clinical colleagues would be willing to trawl through the text to find the material relevant to them.

From the viewpoint of the radiologist the first 100 pages is unnecessary. This covers background physics and techniques which are more thoroughly covered in other textbooks. Of the three guest chapters only that on guided puncture procedures by Otto is good. Dr Magno's chapter on endoscopic ultrasonography fails to show the potential of this important new method, despite the author's eminence in the field.

The core of the book, on abdominal scanning is well illustrated and well referenced and is up to date in methodology. It is a useful read for those involved in scanning but not worth the price of £48.

W R LEES

Books received

Intensive care in hepatology and gastroenterology By A Gauthier. (Pp. 221; illustrated; price not stated.) Paris, France: Masson, 1984.

Tutorials in PG medicine. Clinical endocrinology Edited by W M Keynes and P B S Fowler. (Pp. 698; illustrated; £32.00.) London: Heinemann, 1984.

News

2nd International Symposium on Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

This symposium will take place in Jerusalem, Israel, from 8-11 September 1985. Further details from the Secretariat, PO Box 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel.