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The object of *Gut* is to publish 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 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. 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 definition of the position held by each of the authors in the hospital or laboratory should be stated in a covering letter to the Editor. Communications should be kept short, and illustrations should be included when necessary; coloured illustrations are allowed only if monochrome will not satisfactorily demonstrate the condition. It is not desirable that results should be shown both as tables and graphs.

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

ILLUSTRATIONS Only essential Figures and Tables should be included. *Photographs* Unmounted photographs on glossy paper should be provided. Magnification scales, if necessary, should be lettered on these. Where possible, prints should be trimmed to column width (i.e. 2½ in). *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 *British Medical Journal* (1964), 2, 177)).

ABBREVIATIONS In general, symbols and abbreviations should be those used by the *Biochemical Journal*. In any paper concerning electrolyte metabolism, it is desirable that data be calculated as MEq/l. All measure-

ments except blood pressure should be expressed in SI units (see *Journal of Clinical Pathology* (1974), 27, 590-597; *British Medical Journal* (1974), 4, 490), followed by traditional units in parentheses. Such conversion is the responsibility of the author.

REFERENCES In the text these should follow the Harvard system—that is, name followed by date; James and Smith (1970). If there are more than two authors they should be cited as James *et al.* (1970) even the first time that they appear. The list of references should be typed in double spacing and in alphabetical order on a separate sheet. Such references should give the author's name, followed by initials and year of publication in brackets, *the title of the article quoted*, the name (in full) of the journal in which the article appeared, the volume number in Arabic numerals, followed by numbers of first and last pages of article.

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

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British Council Course

Inflammatory Bowel Diseases

18–29 March 1979

in Birmingham

The Directors of Studies will be Mr J Alexander-Williams, Consultant Surgeon and Dr R N Allan, Consultant Physician to the General Hospital, Birmingham.

The course, **which is residential**, is designed to discuss in depth the theoretical background and practical management of inflammatory bowel disease including ischaemic colitis and pseudo-membranous colitis.

This course is intended for **non-UK citizens** who are specialist with some years experience in practising Gastroenterology.

Information and forms for registration may be obtained from local Representatives of the British Council or from Courses Department, The British Council, 65 Davies Street, London W1Y 2AA.

Application forms must be received in London by 30 November 1978.

Fee £430 (demi-pension).

Drugs and Disease

*The Proceedings of a Symposium organized by the
Royal College of Pathologists*

Edited by Sheila Worledge

Mechanisms of drug action—The molecular basis of drug toxicity ● The incidence of adverse reactions to drugs ● **Drugs and the kidney**—Analgesic nephropathy ● Problems with immunosuppressive agents in renal disease ● Drug treatment of hypertension ● **Drug-induced blood disorders**—Effect of drugs on red cell membranes: Insights into normal red cell shape ● Immunological mechanisms in drug-induced blood dyscrasias ● Clotting and fibrinolysis ● **Drugs and the skin**—The clinical aspects of drugs and disease of the skin ● Immunological mechanisms in the reaction between drugs and the skin ● **Drugs and the liver**—Drug metabolism in liver disease ● Acute liver injury ● Long-term effects on the liver ● **Drugs and the lung**—The effect of oxygen on the lung ● The pathology of the lung in paraquat poisoning ● **The drug dilemma—benefits and hazards**—Drug interactions and lethal drug combinations ● Antidiabetic agents and vascular events ● Hypolipaeamic drugs and coronary heart disease ● The widespread use of pesticides ● Legislation and drug safety

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The Publisher, *Journal of Clinical Pathology*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR

- Karim, S. M. M. (1971). Effects of oral administration of prostaglandins E₂ and F_{2α} on the human uterus. *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the British Commonwealth*, **78**, 289-293.
- Levine, L., Hinkle, P. M., Voelkel, E. F., and Tashjian, A. H., Jr. (1972). Prostaglandin production by mouse fibrosarcoma cells in culture: inhibition by indomethacin and aspirin. *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, **47**, 888-896.
- Piper, P. J., Vane, J. R., and Wyllie, J. H. (1970). Inactivation of prostaglandins by the lungs. *Nature*, **225**, 600-604.
- Takeguchi, C., and Sih, C. J. (1972). A rapid spectrophotometric assay for prostaglandin synthetase: application to the study of non-steroidal antiinflammatory agents. *Prostaglandins*, **2**, 169-184.
- Unger, W. G., Stamford, I. F., and Bennett, A. (1971). Extraction of prostaglandins from human blood. *Nature*, **233**, 336-337.

The September 1978 Issue

THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOW PAPERS

- A gastrin releasing peptide from the porcine non-antral gastric tissue T. J. McDONALD, G. NILSSON, M. VAGNE, M. GHATEI, S. R. BLOOM AND V. MUTT
- Topical effects of 16,16 dimethyl prostaglandin E₂ on gastric acid secretion and mucosal permeability to hydrogen ions in dogs L. Y. CHEUNG, S. F. LOWRY, J. PERRY, AND K. LARSON
- Clinical trial of deglycyrrhizinised liquorice in gastric ulcer K. D. BARDHAN, D. C. CUMBERLAND, R. A. DIXON, AND C. D. HOLDSWORTH
- Gastric emptying after treatment of stenosis secondary to duodenal ulceration by proximal gastric vagotomy and duodenoplasty or pyloric dilatation C. M. WHITE, L. K. HARDING, M. R. B. KEIGHLEY, N. J. DORRICOTT, AND J. ALEXANDER-WILLIAMS
- Treatment of encephalopathy during fulminant hepatic failure by haemodialysis with high permeability membrane J. DENIS, P. OPOLON, V. NUSINOVICI, A. GRANGER, AND F. DARNIS
- Increased serum immunoreactive gastrin levels in idiopathic hypertrophic pyloric stenosis M. A. BLEICHER, B. SHANDLING, W. ZINGG, H. W. A. KARL, AND N. S. TRACK
- Parietal cell hyperplasia induced by long-term administration of antacids to rats G. MAZZACCA, F. CASCIONE, G. BUDILLON, L. D'AGOSTINO, L. CIMINO, AND C. FEMIANO
- Gastric secretion and basal gastrin concentration in bilharzial hepatic fibrosis P. B. BOULOS, E. T. OKOSDONOSSIAN, H. A. ELMUNSHID, S. H. ELMASRI, M. A. HASSAN, AND M. HOBSLEY
- Drug metabolism in hepatosplenic schistosomiasis in the Sudan: a study with antipyrine M. HOMEIDA, S. Y. SALIH, AND R. A. BRANCH
- Secretion pattern of secretin in man: regulation by gastric acid O. B. SCHAFFALITZKY DE MUCKADELL AND J. FAHRENKRUG
- Short chain fatty acid absorption by the human large intestine N. I. MCNEIL, J. H. CUMMINGS, AND W. P. T. JAMES
- Suppression of rejection of *Nippostrongylus brasiliensis* in iron and protein deficient rats: effect of syngeneic lymphocyte transfer A. G. CUMMINS, V. M. DUNCOMBE, T. D. BOLIN, A. E. DAVIS, AND J. D. KELLY
- Relationship of the constituents of bile to biliary peritonitis in the rat E. M. WALKER AND H. ELLIS
- Selective transplenic decompression of oesophageal varices by distal splenorenal and splenocaval shunt R. A. BHALERAO, A. C. PINTO, R. D. BAPAT, S. V. SHETTY, P. D. BHIDE, V. S. WAINGANKAR, J. M. KIRTANE, V. G. MEHENDALE, AND S. D. SHETTY
- Role of bilirubin overproduction in revealing Gilbert's syndrome: is dyserythropoiesis an important factor? J. M. METREAU, JEANINE YVART, D. DHUMEAUX, AND P. BERTHELOT
- Membrane lipid composition of red blood cells in liver disease: regression of spur cell anaemia after infusion of polyunsaturated phosphatidylcholine G. SALVIOLI, G. RIOI, R. LUGLI, AND R. SALATI
- Progress report* Cholestasis and lesions of the biliary tract in chronic pancreatitis H. SARLES AND J. SAHEL
- Notes and activities; Books

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER,
BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON WC1H 9JR, price £2.75, including postage

Notes and activities

BSG Autumn Meeting, Edinburgh

The autumn meeting of the British Society of Gastroenterology was held in Edinburgh on 20-23 September under the Presidency of Dr W. Sircus. The success of the meeting was enhanced by the Georgian splendours of the city, the friendly and efficient organisation and entertaining social programme. The scientific sessions, preceded by a very well-attended Teaching Day, provided a wide variety of basic and clinical papers. Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock delivered the Sir Arthur Hurst Memorial Lecture on 'Untoward hepatic drug reaction's to a packed auditorium. Pathologists', radiologists' and liver groups had lively sessions, there was a separate session for paediatric gastroenterology, and altogether 159 communications were read to the Society. There were Receptions at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Annual Dinner was at the Assembly Rooms, where the new President, Dr C. C. Booth, was duly installed.

Dr B. C. Morson was chosen as the President Elect at the Annual Business meeting, at which reports of the various officers of BSG testified to its continuing success and expansion. Dr David Barnardo has completed his four-year term of office as Joint Secretary and is replaced by Dr Gordon Sladen, who joins Professor Michael Hobsley. The proposed merger between BSG and BSDE is still being discussed by the councils of the two Societies.

British Society for Digestive Endoscopy

The BSDE held a highly successful meeting in Edinburgh in conjunction with the British Society of Gastroenterology: it included a joint endoscopy/radiology symposium on 'The diagnosis of colonic disease'. The Annual Foundation Lecture was given by Dr P. Salmon on 'Endoscopy in the management of alimentary haemorrhage'. At the Annual Business Meeting Dr J. R. Bennett succeeded Dr D. D. Gibbs as Hon. Treasurer.

VI Peruvian Congress of Gastroenterology

This congress and those of associated societies will meet in Lima, Peru, from 13-18 November 1978. Details from Colegio Médico del Perú, Organising

Committee of the VIth Peruvian Congress of Gastroenterology, Malecón Armendariz 791, Miraflores, Lima 18, Peru.

Double Contrast Techniques in Gastrointestinal Radiology

A three-day seminar, 'Introduction to Double Contrast Techniques in Gastrointestinal Radiology', will be presented by the Department of Radiology of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania from 8-10 March 1979. Details from Drs. H. Y. Kressel or I. Laufer, Department of Radiology, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, 3400 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104 (215-662-3264).

Books

Achalasia of the Cardia By H. R. S. Harley. (Pp. 165. Illustrated. £10.00.) John Wright: Bristol. 1978.

Mr Harley has written a monograph about achalasia which exhaustively reviews the modern literature (nearly 300 references) around a framework of an analysis of 75 case records. The review is comprehensive enough to be a reference work for modern diagnostic procedures, ideas on management, and a range of complications. A detailed discussion of the radiological features of the disease, and the differential diagnosis from obstructive and motor disorders is excellently illustrated by 80 x-ray pictures. The section on oesophagoscopy is adequate, but terse, because it represents his experience only; he makes the important points that the achalasic sphincter does not resist the passage of an endoscope and that retention oesophagitis is common but different from peptic oesophagitis. Respiratory complications are extensively considered, including the role of atypical mycobacteria. The pathogenesis of associated joint disease and of carcinoma of the oesophagus are discussed. Some readers may disagree with his separation of 'diffuse spasm' from achalasia in diagnosis and surgical treatment.

His preference for myotomy rather than brusque dilatation is argued. He discusses the details of the operation, the management of the hiatus, of associated hiatal herniation, the methods of radiological and symptomatic assessment of results, the complications of the operation, the incidence of reflux after myotomy, the causes of failure of the

operation, and the management of the sigmoid oesophagus. Although the author is a surgeon, the book will be equally appreciated by physicians and surgeons as an excellent and well-indexed compendium. It is well produced, though in small print, so that its pocket size includes about 82 000 words.

D. A. W. EDWARDS

Antigen Absorption by the Gut Edited by W. A. Hemmings. (Pp. 226. Illustrated. £8.95.) MTP Press: Lancaster. 1978.

The late F. W. R. Brambell established Bangor as a centre for research on protein transport across the epithelia of the gut and the placenta, culminating in his book on the transmission of passive immunity from mother to young, published in 1970. Dr Hemmings and his group have developed a broader interest in the various aspects of protein transport across the small intestinal mucosa, and a series of meetings on this topic have been held in Bangor in the last few years. The twenty chapters of this book are based on presentations at two of these symposia.

A broad range of subjects is touched upon, including mechanisms of binding of antigen to brush border; postulated receptors for protein at the enterocyte membrane; local immune reactions to protein and microbial antigens; and various clinical aspects of food intolerance and of coeliac disease. As in any conference proceedings the style of the papers is very variable and ranges from speculative essays to detailed accounts of experimental work. The absence of discussion of the various presentations is to be regretted, since often this is the most stimulating and informative part of a book based on conference proceedings.

Clinicians should take time to glance at two chapters—that on urticaria and dietary hypersensitivity, by Denham and his colleagues which gives a very lucid account of the aetiologies, investigation, and management of this note of common clinical problems. A highly controversial matter, that of the associations between coeliac disease, schizophrenia, and gluten, is aired by Dr Dohan.

I would say this is a book to be skimmed in the library or the bookshop and perhaps one or two chapters found of interest by most gastroenterologists.

ANNE FERGUSON

BRITISH COUNCIL COURSE

CURRENT STATUS OF CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY

1-12 July 1979 in Cambridge

Dr D. L. Brown of the Department of Clinical Immunology, New Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge will be Director of Studies for this course which is intended to provide an up-to-date review of the application of immunological thought and techniques to the diagnosis and management of human diseases which have an immunological pathogenesis. The programme will consist of lectures and detailed practical demonstrations of current techniques. It is expected that participants will contribute during the sessions.

The course, for non UK citizens, is aimed at clinicians and pathologists at registrar, senior registrar and consultant level with experience of laboratory work and a good understanding of the operation of the immune system.

Information and application forms may be obtained from local overseas Representatives of the British Council or from Courses Departments, The British Council, 65 Davies Street, London W1Y 2aA.

Applications should be in London by 15 February 1979.

Fee including full pension £405.

Hypoxia and Ischaemia

*The Proceedings of a Symposium organized by the
Royal College of Pathologists*

Edited by Basil C. Morson

Factors influencing oxygen availability ● Local factors in tissue oxygenation ● The biochemical consequences of hypoxia ● Hypoxia and the pulmonary circulation ● Hypoxia and the carotid body ● The pathology of myocardial ischaemia ● Animal models of myocardial ischaemia ● Responses of the splanchnic circulation to ischaemia ● Ischaemic bowel disease ● Ischaemia of bone ● Ischaemia of peripheral nerve and muscle ● Hypoxia and tumours ● The pathology of renal ischaemia ● Renal necrosis ● The effects of hypoxaemia in fetal sheep ● Hypoxia in the newborn infant ● Pathology of perinatal hypoxia ● The concepts of thresholds of ischaemia in relation to brain structure and function ● Structural abnormalities in neurones ● Pathology of hypoxic brain damage in man ● Experimental hypoxic brain damage

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