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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 WC1 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 2/4 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 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). 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.

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ever-expanding subject which, from early student days, often seems to be clouded by mystique.

The layout and concise style are excellent and the content provides a refreshing insight into hepatology, with accepted dogma tempered throughout by the reality of every-day clinical experience. There is a generally critical approach to the more controversial areas of management, such as chronic active hepatitis, primary biliary cirrhosis, and portal hypertension. The chapter on immunology in liver disease is commendably concise and all that is needed by most clinicians.

No mention is made of nutritional aspects such as the new field of branch chain amino-acid therapy, or the role of ultrasound in diagnostic and therapeutic aspiration of liver abscesses. Also the advice concerning 'appropriate' antibiotics for liver abscesses is inadequate and Child's classification could have been properly described. The book is surprisingly up to date and overall is a valuable complementary addition of the tradition excellent large British texts on liver disease. I can recommend it wholeheartedly.

B J M JONES

Books received

Aspects of Gastroenterology for Nurses Edited by Mary Sykes. (Pp. 241. Illustrated. £17.50.) Pitman Medical: London. 1981.

Gastric Secretion: Basic and Clinical Aspects Edited by Stanislaw J Konturek and Wolfram Domschke. (Pp. 123. Illustrated. Price not stated.) Thieme: Stuttgart. 1981.

Stomach Diseases. Current Status. Edited by Y M F van Maercke, E M J van Moer, P A R Pelckmans. International Congress Series 555. (Pp. 434. Illustrated. \$76.50.) Excerpta Medica: Amsterdam. 1981.

Corrections

Ileal dysfunction in Crohn's disease assessed by the postprandial serum bile acid response by F J Suchy and W F Balistreri, *Gut* 1981; **22**:948-52. In the legends of Figs 2 and 3, the units should read $\mu\text{mol/l}$, not mmol/l . In the last paragraph of the Results section, the integrated area under the meal response curve should be $\mu\text{mol/l.h}$ and not $\mu\text{mol/l/h}$.

Gastric mucosal histamine and histamine methyltransferase in patients with duodenal ulcer by N R Peden, Helen Callachan, D M Shepherd, and K G Wormsley, *Gut* 1982; **23**:58-62. All the signs indicating the P values in this article were printed as greater than and should have indicated less than the appropriate value, except for $0.1 > P > 0.05$ on page 59.

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