Foreword

This supplement consists of papers presented at the Third International Conference on Intestinal and Pancreatic Adaptation which was held at Titisee in the Black Forest, West Germany on 11–14 June, 1986. The scientific programme of the conference was based on competitive selection of abstracts chosen by an Organising and Advisory Committee drawn from a distinguished group of basic and clinical scientists from Britain, Germany and the United States. All the manuscripts were subject to editorial review by the scientific organisers but were not reviewed in the conventional way by independent assessors.*

The proceedings of the first two international conferences on Intestinal Adaptation have already been published.^{1,2} The first meeting, held in 1973, dealt mainly with the phenomenon of intestinal adaptation, describing the basic (anatomical, cytokinetic, biochemical and physiological) and applied clinical aspects of mucosal structure and function in various clinical and experimental models. The second conference, which took place in 1981, concentrated on mechanisms for the adaptive responses with particular emphasis on the role of nutritional, hormonal, surgical and other stimuli.

These proceedings are concerned more with the cell and molecular biology of normal, adaptive and neoplastic growth in the intestine and pancreas. As with the first two meetings, this was a multidisciplinary conference which involved some 80 participants from 13 countries who represented anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, cell biology and cytokinetics, as well as veterinary and clinical (internal medicine and surgery) science (see list of participants).

The format of the meeting was based on overview lectures, verbal and poster presentations and on many hours of informal discussion outside the conference room. Equal importance was given to verbal and poster presentations, but the authors of posters were given the option of submitting either a full manuscript or an abstract. The papers in this supplement are printed in their order of presentation at the meeting: the poster abstracts appear at the end of the issue. The organisers had also hoped to publish an edited version of the discussions which followed these presentations but limitations of space made this impossible.

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References

- 1 Dowling RH, Riecken E-O (eds). *Intestinal adaptation*. Stuttgart–New York: Schattauer Verlag, 1974.
- 2 Robinson JW, Dowling RH, Riecken E-O (eds). *Mechanisms of intestinal adaptation*. Lancaster: MTP Press, 1982.

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* The papers contained in this supplement have been selected by the organisers of the symposium but have not been subjected to review by *Gut* referees.