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Gut publishes original papers and reviews concerned with practice and research in gastroenterology. The field is that of basic science and physiology pertaining to the alimentary tract, the liver and pancreas and that of alimentary, hepatic, biliary or pancreatic disease. Papers may deal with medical, surgical, or epidemiological aspects or with imaging. 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. Letters dealing with matters arising from articles published in *Gut*, or with topics of general professional interest are encouraged, but the correspondence column should not be used for publication of original data.

COMMUNICATIONS Two copies of the manuscript and figures should be addressed to the Editor, *Gut*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, UK. 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 title page 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 200 word summary must head the paper. Excessive use of abbreviations is discouraged. Papers are accepted only on the written understanding, signed by all authors, that the data have not been published elsewhere in whole or in part and that all the authors agree to publication in *Gut*; previous publication in abstract form must be disclosed in a footnote. Papers must not be published elsewhere without previous sanction of the Editorial Committee.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS Manuscripts will not be acknowledged unless a stamped addressed postcard, or an 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). **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.**

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colitis and Crohn's disease. A wide range of conditions are beautifully illustrated including the spindle cell variant of oesophageal squamous cell carcinoma, parasitic infestations and visceral myopathy. The only notable exception is a description of intestinal graft versus host disease. Several useful diagrams are provided to aid the reader's understanding, for instance in the classification of early gastric carcinoma. The legends are comprehensive and impart to the reader a clear understanding of the histological appearances of the condition and many useful pointers in differential diagnosis.

On reaching the end of the final chapter one feels a sense of having read an illustrated textbook of gastrointestinal pathology rather than having browsed through an atlas. This book is highly recommended and should prove to be a useful addition to the personal library of pathologists and clinicians with an interest in gastroenterology.

N A WRIGHT

Immunology of the gastrointestinal tract and liver. Edited by M F Heyworth and A L Jones. (Pp. 241; illustrated; \$70.) New York: Raven Press, 1987.

During the past five years there have been a number of new texts on the immunology of the alimentary tract. Like all medium sized books in a rapidly developing field, they run the risk of being rapidly out of date. Texts face the additional dilemma of whether to focus primarily on basic immunological mechanisms in the gut and liver, or to attempt to bring order to the myriad of immunological studies in disease states. Heyworth and Jones in this text have opted primarily for the former which constitutes the first eight chapters and approximately 75% of the book. These chapters formally examine the role of T cells and other non-B lymphocytes, immunoglobulin producing cells, macrophages, mast cells together with excellent coverage of immune cell communication and trafficking. This first section of the book is completed by two excellent chapters on oral immunisation and tolerance and the genetic control of gut immune responses. In addition there is an excellent, albeit relatively brief account of immunological functions of the liver.

In the final 30 pages there is an attempt to explore the role of immunological mechanisms in intestinal and hepatic diseases. Although sceptics might argue that our understanding of the role of these processes in disease states is far from complete, despite an enormous body of published literature, the approach used in this text is not entirely satisfactory. Excessive emphasis is placed on immunological mechanisms in intestinal malignancy (19 pages, 153 references), whereas other diseases such as coeliac disease,

inflammatory bowel disease, chronic active hepatitis and primary biliary cirrhosis earn a substantially smaller slice of the cake (12 pages). These diseases are all discussed under the umbrella heading of 'autoimmunity', which is perhaps unwise because the aetiopathogenesis of many of the conditions discussed is unknown. This possible 'design fault', however, in no way detracts from what is otherwise an excellent and apparently closely edited text with very little overlap between chapters. The editors have assembled a group of internationally renowned experts who do credit to themselves and to the book as a whole.

M FARTHING

Books received

Maladies inflammatoires de l'intestin Edited by R Modigliani. (Pp. 274; illustrated; 290 F.) Paris: Doin, 1988.

Computing for clinicians By T Chard. (Pp. 144; illustrated; £18.) London: Elmore-Chard, 1988.

H₁ and H₂ histamine receptors Edited by G A Settupane. (Pp. 171; illustrated; price not stated.) Rhode Island: Oceanside Publications, 1988.

La mucoviscidose Edited by G Lenoir. (Pp. 208; illustrated; 182 F.) Paris: Doin, 1988.

Magnesium in general practice By J Durlach. (Pp. 360; illustrated; £35.) London: John Libbey, 1988.

Comparative nutrition Edited by Sir K Blaxter and I Macdonald. (Pp. 264; illustrated; £24.) London: John Libbey, 1988.

News

Sir Francis Avery Jones BSG Research Award 1989

A three page summary of personal research work is invited by the Education Committee of the British Society of Gastroenterology who will recommend to Council the recipient of the 1989 Award. A bibliography may also be submitted if desired. The Award consists of a medal and £100 prize. Entrants must be 40 years or less on 31 December 1989 but need not be a member of the BSG. All (or a substantial part) of the work must have been done in the UK or Eire. The recipient will be required to deliver a 40 minute lecture at the Plenary Session of the Spring meeting of the Society in Bradford in 1989. Applications (15 COPIES) should be made to: The Honorary Secretary, BSG, 3 St Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4LB, by 1 December 1988.