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*Gut* publishes original papers and reviews concerned with practice and clinical research in gastroenterology. The field includes the basic science, molecular biology, physiology and diseases of the alimentary tract, the liver and pancreas including epidemiological, medical, surgical, radiological or histopathological aspects. Case reports will only be accepted if of exceptional merit. Letters related to articles published in *Gut* or with topics of general professional interest are welcomed. Authors are encouraged to include the names and addresses of four experts whom the authors consider suitable to peer review their work.

**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; i: 532-5. *Gut* 1979; 20: 651-2). They should be in double-spaced typewriting on one side of the paper only. The title page should include the name of the author with initials or distinguishing first name only, and the name and address of the hospital or laboratory where the work was performed. The paper must include a precise summary of the work of less than 200 words. Excessive use of abbreviation is discouraged. A covering letter signed by all authors must state that the data have not been published elsewhere in whole or in part and that all authors agree to publication in *Gut*. Previous publication in abstract form must be disclosed in a footnote. Papers must not be published elsewhere without prior permission of the Editorial Committee.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS** Manuscripts will only be acknowledged if an addressed postcard is enclosed.

**ILLUSTRATIONS** *Photographs* Unmounted photographs on glossy paper should be provided. *Diagrams* will usually be reduced to 71 mm wide. Illustrations should not be inserted in the text but marked on the back with the figure numbers, title of paper and name of author. All photographs, graphs, 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.

**ETHICS** Ethical aspects will be considered 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 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 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 longterm cimetidine. *Gut* 1979; 20: 123-4. **NB: Accurate punctuation is essential.**

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every knowledgeable reader will find fault with the choice of articles. Nevertheless, this collection gives insight into some of the background of a significant number of major advances which were published, surprisingly, in a handful of journals; and the papers are reproduced clearly and attractively.

The introduction is excellent, but the lack of a commentary is unfortunate because the essential theme is thereby almost lost. This, however, does not detract from browsing through an enjoyable book, which provides a valuable insight into an important topic.

ARIE J ZUCKERMAN

## Books received

**Advances in urology** Edited by B Lytton. (Pp. 318; illustrated; £37.50) Chicago: Year Book Medical Publishers, 1988.

**Causation and prevention of colorectal cancer** Edited by J Faivre and M J Hill. (Pp. 214; illustrated; price not stated) Amsterdam: Excerpta Medica, 1987.

**Les aliments dans le tube digestif** By J J Bernier, J Adrian, and N Vidon. (Pp. 468; illustrated; 285F.) Paris: Doin, 1988.

**Lasers in medicine** By G T Absten and S N Joffe. (Pp. 71; illustrated; £7.95.) London: Chapman and Hall, 1989.)

**Liver cells and drugs** Edited by A Guillozo. (Pp 494; illustrated; price not stated.) Paris: INSERM, 1988.

**Imaging and labelling techniques in the critically ill** Edited by W Kox, J Boultebe, and R Donaldson. (Pp. 188; illustrated; £93.00.) London: Springer Verlag, 1988.

**Inflammatory bowel diseases – basic research and clinical implications.** Edited by H Goebell, B M Peskar, and H Malchow. (Pp. 450; illustrated; £65.) Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers Group, 1988.

**Calcium-dependent processes in the liver.** Edited by C Heilmann. (Pp. 310; illustrated; £55.) Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers Group, 1988.

## News

### Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Society of Digestive Endoscopy

The Fourth International Workshop and Symposium on Therapeutic Endoscopy will be held in Hong Kong from 5–7 December, 1989. Further details are available from: Dr J Leung, Dept of Medicine, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong.

### 2nd International Conference on Gastrointestinal Cancer

This conference will be held from 27 August to 1 September, 1989, in Jerusalem, Israel. Further information may be obtained from: GIA Secretariat, POB 50006, 61500 Tel Aviv, Israel.

### XXXI International Congress of Physiological Sciences

A congress and exhibition will be held from 9–14 July, 1989, at the Helsinki Fair Centre, Finland. Further details may be obtained from Ms Kyllikki Kauppinen. Tel: 358 31 551 740.

### First Course of Coloproctology on Surgery of the Anal Sphincters

To be held at La Cittadela Cristiana, Assisi, from 8–10 June, 1989. Further information from: Dr M Pescatori, Clinica Chirurgica, Università Cattolica, Largo Gemelli 8, 00168 Roma, Italy. Tel: 06-33054083.

### European Association for the Study of the Liver

The 24th annual meeting of the association will be held from 30 August to 2 September, 1989, in Munich. Details may be obtained from: Dr A L Gerbes, Dept of Medicine II, Klinikum Grosshadern, University of Munich, D-8000 Munich 70, Federal Republic of Germany.

### International Symposium on Brain Gut Interaction

This symposium will take place on 4–7 July, 1989, at Queen's College, Cambridge, England. Further information may be obtained from: Ms Joyce M Fried, Brain Research Institute, University of California Center for the Health Sciences, Los Angeles, California 90024-1761, USA. Tel: (213) 825-5061, Telefax: (213) 206-8460.

### Netherlands Society of Gastroenterology

The Holland Digestive Disease Week – New Frontiers in Gastroenterology and Hepatology will be held from 21–24 June, 1989, in Amsterdam. Further details may be obtained from: Dr W Dekker, St Elisabeth's of Groote Gasthuis, Boerhaavelaan 22, 2035 RC Haarlem, The Netherlands.

### American College of Physicians

The 70th Annual Session will be held at the Moscone Center, San Francisco, California, USA, from 13–16 April, 1989. Further details from: Frank Davidoff, MD, American College of Physicians, 4200 Pine Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19104, USA.

# ABC OF AIDS

Edited by Michael W Adler

The *ABC of AIDS* provides essential details on the development of the epidemic, management of early HIV infection, tumours, and the respiratory, neurological, and gastrointestinal manifestations. It discusses the treatment of infections and the prospects for vaccines and prevention as well as outlining programmes for counselling, nursing, and the control of infection.

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