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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 Papers must not be published elsewhere without prior permission of the Editorial Committee.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.**

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

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Medical Clinic, 317 W Pueblo Street, Santa Barbara, California 93105, USA.

Metabolic Disorders and Nutrition Related to the Skin

This symposium organised jointly by the European Society for Dermatological Research and the Netherlands Society of Dermatology and Venerology will be held in Utrecht, the Netherlands from 8–10 March, 1990. For further information please contact: Willem A van Vloten, MD, Department of Dermatology, University Hospital Utrecht, Postbox 85500, 3508 GA Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Course in Gastroenterology

To be held in Oxford from 7–10 January 1990. Further enquiries are available from Dr D P Jewell, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford OX2 6HE. Tel: 0865–816829.

American Associations for the Study of Liver Diseases

Annual postgraduate course: 'New frontiers in liver disease', will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, USA, from 28–29 October, 1989, followed by the 40th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases on 30–31 October, 1989. For further information contact: Registration Supervisor, Slack Incorporated, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, New Jersey 08086–9447, USA.

Sir Francis Avery Jones BSG Research Award 1990

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 1990 Award. A bibliography may also be submitted if desired. The Award consists of a medal and £100 prize. Entrants must be 40 years of less on 31 December 1990 but need not be a member of the BSG. All (or a substantial part) of the work must have been performed 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 at the University of Warwick in 1990. 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 1989.

Hopkins Endoscopy Prize

The Hopkins Prize is offered annually for a paper on any topic relating to endoscopy. Applicants are invited to submit a three page summary of the proposed paper to the Endoscopy Committee of the BSG who will recommend to Council the recipient of the 1990 award. Collaborative work is acceptable but written approval for such entries and for the designated presenter must be provided by all principal contributors to the study. The recipient will present a 15 minute paper at the Spring BSG meeting in Warwick and will receive a prize of £100 and a permanent memento. Applications (four copies) should be submitted to: Dr N Krasner, Department of Medicine, Walton Hospital, Rice Lane, Liverpool L9 1AE. The closing date for entries is 15 DECEMBER, 1989.

Future BSG Meetings

1989: Autumn—Dublin (27–29 September); 1990: Spring—Warwick (28–30 March); Autumn—Southampton (26–28 September); 1991: Spring—UMIST (Manchester) (10–12 April); Autumn—London (25–27 September); 1992: Spring—Sheffield (25–27 March); Autumn—Warwick (9–11 September); 1993: Spring—Scottish Exhibition Centre (24–26 March); Autumn—Warwick (15–17 September); 1994: Spring—UMIST (23–25 March); Autumn—York (21–23 September—provisional)

Books received

Year Book of urology 1988. Edited by J Y Gillenwater and S S Howards. (Pp. 309; illustrated; £35.50.) London: Wolfe Medical Publications Ltd, 1988.

Cholecystokinin antagonists Neurology and Neurobiology, (Vol 47) Edited by R Y Wang and R Schoenfeld. (Pp. 370; illustrated; \$74.00.) New York: Alan R Liss Inc, 1988.

A colour atlas of gynaecological surgery. Abdominal operations for benign conditions. Revised Edition. Volume 2. By D H Lees and A Singer. (Pp. 283; illustrated £70.00.) London: Wolfe Medical Publications, 1989.

Ischemia and reperfusion. Series Editor F Hammersten-Munich and K Messemer-Heidelberg. (Pp. 134; illustrated; DM128.00.) Karger, 1989.

Viruses and the gut. Edited by M J G Farthing. (Pp. 601; illustrated; £50.00.) Welwyn Garden City: Smith Kline and French 1989.

AIDS in gastroenterology and hepatology Edited by M Classen and H Dancygier. (Pp. 77; illustrated; price not given) Grafelfing: Demeter Verlag, 1989.

Health guidelines for the use of wastewater in agriculture and aquaculture WHO Scientific Group. (Pp. 74; illustrated; \$7.20.) Geneva: World Health Organisation, 1989.

Gastric motility Edited by R Cheli, E Bovero and N Pandolfo. (Pp. 168; illustrated; 70.000 lira.) Verona: Cortina International, 1988.

Obesity in Europe 88 Edited by P Bjorntorp and S Rossner. (Pp. 380; illustrated; £30.00.) London: John Libbey, 1989.

My operation – surgery in ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease By I Muir. (Pp. 23; illustrated; no price given.) Welwyn Garden City: Smith Kline and French, 1989.

Prevention of stress bleeding in critically ill patients – a new concept Edited by M Tryba. (Pp. 162; illustrated; 44.00 DM.) New York: Thieme Medical Publisher, 1988.

Controversies in general surgery Edited by T G Allen-Marsh (Pp. 122; illustrated; £10.00.) London: Edward Arnold, 1989.