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clinical hepatology. Extensive information regarding basic anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, immunology, and genetics, investigative methods such as radiology and imaging and general pathology occupy a quarter of the book. Diseases of the liver are reviewed in the rest of the book and these chapters are generally good.

Clinicians will appreciate excellent reviews of portal hypertension, which includes an interesting description of the venous anatomy in this condition, and ascites where there is a good review of current treatment. There is an extensive and generally good section on infectious diseases supplemented by an appendix giving useful information on the geographic distribution of these diseases. Pyogenic liver abscesses, however, are treated rather superficially and received no more consideration than, for example, melioidosis which seems a little imbalanced.

The book ends with interesting chapters on the effects of liver disease on other body systems, the effects of disease in other systems on the liver, and the effects of old age on the liver and its diseases. The appendices include an interesting compilation of chemical liver toxins which should be useful to those seeing patients found to have asymptomatic abnormal liver function tests possibly related to their occupations.

The substantial and comprehensive index helps greatly in tracing relevant material on specific topics through the book, but greater cross referencing would have been a major help to readers and might have prevented duplication of material. It is too much to expect that a book written by so many contributors would have a uniform style but, in general, variation is not too marked and sections are overall well referenced.

This very good book compares well with other available reference texts devoted to the liver and its diseases. Individual physicians will blanch at its cost, but it should be displayed prominently in all medical libraries.

N D C FINLAYSON

Paediatric gastroenterology. By J Navarro and J Schmitz. (Pp 547; illustrated; £80.) Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.

A translation into English of the most authoritative French text on paediatric gastroenterology has been published. The two distinguished authors are internationally recognised on this subject. The book, as a result, provides a

comprehensive account of the whole field viewed from a French perspective but with an international bibliography significantly based on English language publications.

A comprehensive account of the development of the digestive system is given as well as a detailed description of the diseases which affect the oesophagus, stomach, small and large intestine, and the pancreas. There is a separate chapter on disorders which require surgical treatment. The symptomatology of gastrointestinal diseases in children is discussed and investigational and therapeutic techniques are dealt with in separate sections.

Clearly there has been some delay in publishing this text in English and as a result it is not completely up to date. This is no doubt the reason for the failure to discuss *Helicobacter pylori* gastritis in the chapter devoted to gastritis. This book, however, provides a useful European addition to the rapidly expanding literature of paediatric gastroenterology.

J A WALKER-SMITH

All titles reviewed here are available from the BMJ Bookshop, PO Box 295, London WC1H 9TE. Prices include postage in the UK and for members of the British Forces Overseas, but overseas customers should add 15% to the value of the order for postage and packing. Payment can be made by cheque in sterling drawn on a UK bank, or by credit card (Mastercard, Visa, or American Express), stating card number, expiry date, and full name.

NOTES

Food sensitivity and the brain – Bibliography

A bibliography has been prepared from the medical and psychological literature of references linking food sensitivity with one or more of the following: *behaviour disorders, hyperactivity, criminal behaviour, psychosis, addiction, headache, migraine, epilepsy*. This bibliography (1750 references to 1991) can be supplied to interested clinicians, scientists, and students as hard copy, IBM or Apple Macintosh readable files, for a small charge. Enquiries to: Professor Anne Ferguson, Department of Medicine, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh EH4 2XU. Fax: 031 343 2570.

Transjugular intrahepatic shunts

A course of Transjugular Intrahepatic Porto-caval Shunts: Technical and Clinical Aspects will be held on 5 February 1993 in Toulouse. Further details from: TIPS, Service d'Hépatogastro-Entérologie, CHU PURPAN, 31059 Toulouse, France. Fax: 33-61-49-71-74 or Service de Radiologie, CHU RANGUEIL, 31054 Toulouse, France. Fax: 33-61-32-24-92.

HIV Infection and the Gastrointestinal Tract

The International Congress on the Impact of HIV Infection on the Gastrointestinal Tract will be held on 5-7 March 1993 in Bologna, Italy. Further information from: NOEMA Congressi, Via Lame 24 40122 Bologna, Italy. Tel: 39 51 230385. 269969; fax 39 51 221894.

Digestive Endoscopy

The European Workshop on Therapeutic Digestive Endoscopy will be held in Brussels from 15-17 June 1993. Further information from: Scientific Secretariat, André Van Gossom MD, Gastroenterology Department, Erasme Hospital, Route de Lennik 808, B-1070 Brussels, Belgium. Tel: 32 2 555 37 12; fax: 32 2 555 46 97.

Liver Diseases Symposium

The AASLD Single Topic Symposium 'Liver Regeneration' will be held on 24-27 June 1993 at the Airlie Conference Center, Airlie, Virginia. Further information from: AASLD Single Topic Symposium, Registration Manager, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, NJ 08086-9447 USA. Tel: 609-848-1000, extn 213.

Interventional ultrasound

The 6th International Congress on Interventional Ultrasound will be held from 7-10 September 1993 in Copenhagen. Further information from: Christian Nolsøe, Congress Secretary, Department of Ultrasound, Herlev Hospital, University of Copenhagen, DK-2730 Herlev, Denmark.

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