

aspects of MRSA. The chapters provide a comprehensive review of the subject, ranging from historical aspects through microbiology, extent and mechanisms of resistance, laboratory methods for detection of resistance, epidemiology, treatment of infections, eradication of carriage and control and cost of outbreaks.

Inevitably, there is considerable overlap between chapters, which is at times irritating, although I did not find any contradictions. The standard of prose is also somewhat varied, and one chapter left me wondering whether the author was aware that there are journals published outside the USA. As is often the case with monographs, the real value in the book is that somebody else has done the literature search for you. Chapter references average in excess of 75 (range 27 to 134), allowing the reader to absorb the distilled view of the chapter author, and yet readily seek the source data. I'm still not sure what to do with the long-term carrier who is blocking an acute bed and is denied entry to hostel care. Certainly worth a read, but at £89.75, this is one for the library.

GEOFFREY L RIDGWAY

Urinary Cytology. Manual and Atlas. 2nd edn. P Rathert, S Roth, MS Soloway. (Pp 210; 196 figs; DM 186.00.) Springer. 1993. ISBN 3-540-53312-5

This revised edition is the work of several authors, mainly from German institutions. It deals with the lower urinary tract and urine cytology. The manual section starts with an interesting and delightfully illustrated history of urine examination up to recent landmarks including image analysis and immunocytochemistry. A comprehensive discussion on indications and applications follows, with careful assessment of advantages and limitations.

The information with regard to benign disorders, including inflammation and specific infections, ultrastructure (well illustrated with electron microphotographs), epidemiology and classification of tumours, is carefully documented with a wealth of detail. The relation between dysplasia and

malignancy is carefully argued with regard to the difficulties and pitfalls of grading and the sources of error.

The chapter on working techniques is excellent, fully comprehensive, and accurate, with details of methods and techniques very clearly illustrated with line drawings.

The atlas starts with a helpful introduction on its organisation and use, emphasising the comparative aspects of cell appearances. This is a pertinent point and it works well. There are over 100 well chosen colour plates illustrating the diagnostic points. Although the grey or blue background in some (figs 9.53a, 9.60b, and 9.98b.) compromises the contrast, this is a minor criticism. The "icing on the cake" comes with the chapters devoted to DNA cytometry, immunocytochemistry, and erythrocyte morphology.

Overall, the book is, as one would expect, a meticulous and excellent state of the art. It is invaluable to every cytologist and clinician interested in cancer of the lower urinary tract.

ANNE MORSE

Notices

The Wellcome Trust, London NW1
21 October 1993

The Scientific Work of Martin Gardner

The BMJ, Medical Research Council Environmental Epidemiology Unit, and the Medical Section of the Royal Statistical Society for Social Medicine are holding a one day conference to discuss the work of Martin Gardner, who died prematurely at the beginning of this year.

Contact: Gaby Shockley, BMJ, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Tel 071-387 4499.

12th International Convocation on Immunology Transfusion Immunology and Medicine

Buffalo, New York,
14-18 May, 1994

Presented by The Ernest Witebsky Center for Immunology, plenary sessions will focus on the topics: removal of infectious agents; testing for infectious agents; allotypes; immunological effects on blood transfusion; components and alternatives; transfusion strategies.

Open poster sessions on the theme will be offered. Approved for up to 24.5 hours of CME credit.

Contact: Dr RK Cunningham, Director, 433 Sherman Hall, SUNY at Buffalo, 3435 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14214-3078. Tel (716) 829-2848. Fax (716) 829-2158.

ACP Locum Bureau

The Association of Clinical Pathologists runs a locum bureau for consultant pathologists.

Applicants with the MRCPath who would like to do locums and anyone requiring a locum should contact The General Secretary, 221 Preston Road, Brighton BN1 6SA. Tel (0273) 561188. Fax (0273) 541227.

Corrections

Sincere apologies are extended to Dr D M Keeling *et al* for an error which appeared in their paper, Lupus anticoagulant activity of some antiphospholipid antibodies against phospholipid bound β_2 glycoprotein I, *J Clin Pathol* 1993;46:665-7. The second sentence of the first paragraph should read: "The former antibodies are usually detected in solid phase enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA), the latter by their ability to prolong phospholipid dependent coagulation tests."

Our apologies to Dr B J Bain whose name was incorrectly spelt in a book review which appeared in *J Clin Pathol* 1993;46:584. The book is *Bone Marrow Pathology*.