

## Book Reviews

Z. Nicholas Zakov, M.D.  
Section Editor

**Cardiac Emergencies**, ed. by Melvin M. Scheinman, Philadelphia, W. B. Saunders, 1984, 416 pp, \$29.95.

*Cardiac Emergencies* is an excellent and clinically useful monograph which covers a wide range of subjects, including acute myocardial infarction and its mechanical and electrical complications, acute aortic dissection, cardiac compression syndromes, the major pulmonary problems of acute embolization, and acute respiratory decompensation. The title is a little misleading as the text of each article goes beyond descriptions of the acute emergency phase of cardiac illnesses into the areas of advanced supportive and therapeutic intensive care. In addition to treatment, most sections review important historical, pathophysiologic, and diagnostic aspects. In general, the writing is clear and direct. The format of the chapters is clearly identified by appropriate and self-explanatory subheadings. The tables and illustrations are sufficient and well reproduced. *Cardiac Emergencies* should be of interest and help to not only the cardiovascular specialist, but also to the internist who is involved in the care of acutely ill patients with cardiac problems and the postgraduate physician-in-training who is learning to identify and deal with patients with these serious difficulties.

DONALD UNDERWOOD, M.D.  
Department of Clinical Cardiology  
The Cleveland Clinic Foundation

**Therapeutic Approaches to Myocardial Infarct Size Limitations**, ed. by David J. Hearse and Derek M. Yellon, New York, Raven Press, 1984, 255 pp, \$42.00.

On review of the title, one might expect a "how to" review of the clinical efforts of the last 10 years regarding myocardial infarct size limitation. Instead, the foreword by Doctor Oliver of Edinburgh challenges the methods and assumptions of past efforts, and from that introduction, there follows a series of essays from which emerges a framework made up of the current understanding of myocardial and cellular injury and death, macrocirculatory and microcirculatory function and responses to injury, variation in intraspecies and interspecies collateral systems, and

the wide variety of tools used for study. The ideas of lateral and transmural ischemic border zones are reviewed, and the importance of remembering that human coronary atherosclerotic disease is a multifaceted problem which needs to be studied with different models at different stages in its evolution is re-emphasized. Finally, with the current efforts of reperfusion with a variety of mechanical and pharmacologic tools in mind, a shift in approach from absolute attempts to save cells in the face of a fixed obstruction to an attempt to delay death until the obstruction can be removed or reduced is suggested.

*Therapeutic Approaches to Myocardial Infarct Size Limitations* is for the interventionalist because it gives a sound review of basic cellular and circulatory physiology upon which his or her efforts begin.

DONALD UNDERWOOD, M.D.  
Department of Clinical Cardiology  
The Cleveland Clinic Foundation

**Urinary Stone**, ed. by Rosemary Ryall, Gwynne J. Brickis, Willis Marshall, and Birdwell Finlayson, New York, Churchill Livingstone, 1984, 391 pp, \$55.00.

This book represents an edited collection of subject matter presented at the Second International Urinary Stone Conference held in Singapore in 1983. It is a group of papers representing current investigation of urinary stone disease from geographically diversified areas. The editors have done an excellent job of organizing the material into clinical and experimental sections, although the emphasis is on the latter.

Coverage in the clinical areas include current thoughts on the epidemiology of calculous disease. There are several studies dealing with possible nutritional factors and environmental aspects. Perhaps the great advances in the treatment of calculous disease in the past five years have been in surgical management—specifically in the use of shock-wave and ultrasonic fragmentation. Both of these modalities are reviewed here by leaders in their respective fields. The studies about newer modalities for the medical man-

agement of stones are unfortunately less enlightening and convincing. (One goes away thinking, "Hydrochlorothiazide until proved otherwise.")

In the experimental sections, several papers dealing with stone inhibitors and promoters provide insight into current theories and where basic research should be headed. Furthermore, sections about stone structure, analytic methods, crystal formation, and physicochemical aspects provide good corollaries and introduce some thought-provoking animal models.

This collection is perhaps most useful as background for a basic understanding of the newer and rapidly evolving aspects of the knowledge of stone formation and prevention. It also supplies a general survey of the current basic research being applied to these areas. It does suffer to some extent from the nature of the papers; the sections are really collections of extended abstracts from the symposium rather than standard book chapters. While the wide geographic distribution represented by the work is interesting for the epidemiologic studies, in many cases, the reports are somewhat primitive. At times, significant details of the studies seem lacking and some conclusions may not be warranted.

*Urinary Stone* would primarily be of interest to those actively involved in current stone research, either at the basic science or the clinical levels. The book is of less value to those engaged primarily in patient care.

STEVAN B. STREEM, M.D.

Department of Urology  
The Cleveland Clinic Foundation

### **Urodynamics: Principles, Practice and Application,**

ed. by A. R. Mundy, T. P. Stephenson, and A. Wein,  
New York, Churchill Livingstone, 1984, 394 pp, \$59.00.

Except for two brief chapters about upper urinary tract urodynamics, this 36-chapter book is a comprehensive guide to the evaluation and management of vesico-urethral dysfunction in adults and children. Also included is a section dealing with this subject in the elderly. Each chapter is followed by a well-balanced series of references.

There are 28 contributors to this volume: 20 from the United Kingdom, six from the United States, and two from The Netherlands. Terminology employed throughout the book follows recommendations made in the four Standardization Reports of the International Continence Society; consequently, this work should be readily understood by readers on both sides of the Atlantic.

The British bias toward liquid as the filling medium for cystometry is apparent, and several convincing arguments are given against the use of carbon dioxide for this purpose. Considering, however, the widespread use of carbon dioxide cystometry in the United

States, this work might have been better balanced by asking a proponent of carbon dioxide cystometry to include arguments in its favor.

This well-written text appears directed toward the reader who already has some experience in urodynamics. Its scope and attention to detail will probably lessen its appeal to those who wish an introduction to this subject.

DROGO K. MONTAGUE, M.D.

Department of Urology  
The Cleveland Clinic Foundation

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**Pancreatic Pathology,** by Günter Klöppel and Philipp U. Heitz, New York, Churchill Livingstone, 1984, 239 pp, \$50.00.

Most of the 13 chapters in this book were written by one or both of the co-authors. The text discusses anatomy and physiology; endocrine and nonendocrine tumors; cystic, traumatic, and vascular lesions; pancreatitis; and morphologic changes seen in diabetes mellitus. Pediatric entities, such as lipomatous atrophy, cystic fibrosis, hyperinsulinemic hypoglycemia, and congenital anomalies, receive considerable coverage. A separate chapter reviews pancreatic biopsy (cytology). Also, this book contains the latest published defense of the APUD concept by A. G. E. Pearse. The absence of information concerning pancreatic transplantation, however, is disappointing.

The overall content of this book is good. The narrative is informative and well referenced. Although approximately 4% of the photomicrographs are too small to illustrate the point, the remaining illustrations are of exceptionally good quality.

The major criticisms concern editing problems. The text contains more than the occasional misspelled word. Table 5.6 is incomplete. Chapter organization is clumsy. There are many repetitions. Some statements and paragraphs do not relate to the topics under discussion.

The reviews of anatomy and embryology are succinct and easy to understand, but most readers will find the discussion of physiology excessive. Copious space is given to both computed tomography and ultrasound, both of which seem out of place in this type of textbook.

The chapter entitled "Pancreatic Biopsy" is misleading. This section focuses on the relative merits of cytodiagnosis over biopsy. Statements such as "in general [intraoperative cytodiagnosis] can be made within twenty minutes of obtaining the specimen" may be disconcerting to many surgeons.

Despite these criticisms, this is a good book for physicians-in-training and certainly for any pathologist, gastroenterologist, or surgeon with particular interest in pancreatic disease. Surgical pathologists