

- McColl KEL. Rebound hypersecretion after 4 weeks H2 antagonist therapy. American Gastroenterology Association, May 17th, 1989. Washington DC.
- 2 Nwokolo CU, Smith JTL, Pounder RE. Rebound intra-gastric acidity after acute withdrawal of cimetidine, famotidine or nizatidine is not mediated by persisting hypergastrinaemia. [Abstract] *Gut* 1989; **30**: A725.
 - 3 McLauchlan G, Fullarton GM, Crean GP, McColl KEL. Comparison of gastric body and antral pH: a 24 hour ambulatory study in healthy volunteers. *Gut* 1989; **30**: 573-8.
 - 4 McLauchlan G, Rawlings JM, Lucas ML, McCloy RF, Crean GP, McColl KEL. Electrodes for 24 hour pH monitoring - a comparative study. *Gut* 1987; **28**: 935-9.

Books

Gastrointestinal radiology: self assessment in radiology and imaging. By M Berger. (Pp. 174; illustrated; £19.50.) London: Wolfe Medical Publications, 1985 (Paperback Edition 1988).

This is a paperback edition of a hardback book produced in 1985. It includes not only gastrointestinal radiology, but also a sprinkling of upper abdominal ultrasound. Computed tomography and nuclear medicine. The text is organised in a sensible way. A series of questions is attached to a radiograph or a scan on the right hand page, and the answers are then written on the next (left hand) page with a copy of the original images, often annotated with helpful arrows or numbers related to the answer. The images are of uniform high quality with the exception of most of the ultrasound scans (and to a lesser extent, the CT scans) which are frankly showing their age. The questions are on the whole fairly simple. I was slightly irritated by the manner in which the second part of the question would often imply the answer to the first part.

I have few quibbles with the answers to the text and they often give helpful thumb nail sketches of the condition involved. Q4 suggests cobblestoning is a feature of ileal TB; this is usually considered very rare and a distinguishing feature. I think most people would clear a bile duct of stones at ERCP in a patient with cholangitis rather than just perform a sphincterotomy and hope the stones pass (as is suggested in Q66).

My main problem is in deciding to whom the book should be recommended. Radiologists coming up to FRCR would find the examples too easy and the technique related questions are so basic that they are obviously not aimed at them. I suspect that gastroenterologists in training would find the clinical

information too basic, and the questions are often so written that the answer is given away even without looking at the images. Perhaps first year radiologists and non-gastroenterological physicians working towards MRCP would find it most helpful and certainly light relief in any revision programme.

P J SHORVON

Current hepatology. Vol. 8. Edited by G Gitnick. (Pp. 485; illustrated; £53.50.) Chicago: Yearbook Medical Publishers, 1988.

This is the latest of a popular series describing recent advances in liver disease. It is multi-author, and each year fresh writers are chosen so that chapters do not become stereotyped or stale, and fresh topics may be included.

The present volume covers such subjects as portal hypertension, liver disease and surgery of the gall bladder, bile ducts, and liver. There is even an update by M Sherman on the molecular biology of liver disease. There is also a most welcome chapter, written by K Okuda, covering recent articles on liver disease, published in the Japanese language.

I enjoyed the chapter by R Koretz, entitled 'Hepatitis - words and music'. With great skill he has incorporated the themes of hepatitis into those of such Broadway musicals as *Annie get your gun*, *The King and I*, and *The sound of music*. This needed considerable ingenuity, review of 377 scientific articles and, presumably, reading librettos of the shows.

J Reichen and R Preisig, in their chapter on cirrhosis, note *inter alia* the value of third generation cephalosporins to treat systemic infections including bacterial peritonitis. They applaud the coming of age of quantitative tests of liver function.

References are liberal and well chosen, but unfortunately, most of them have been published in 1985 and 1986. Readers, whether general physicians or gastroenterologists, will find that this book gives them a birds eye view of advances in liver disease in a manageable and readable form.

SHEILA SHERLOCK

News

Endoscopy 1990: The Southern California Society For Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Symposium

This symposium will be held on 24 and 25 February, 1990, in Los Angeles, California. For further information contact: John L Petrini, MD, Sansum