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Gut publishes original papers and reviews concerned with practice and research in the field of gastroenterology. The field is that of alimentary, hepatic, or pancreatic disease, and papers may cover the medical, surgical, radiological, or historical aspects. They may also deal with the basic sciences concerned with the alimentary tract, including experimental work. A case report will be accepted only if it deals with a clinical problem which has been studied in detail and the resulting data provide material for further research.

COMMUNICATIONS Two copies of papers and figures should be addressed to the Editor, *Gut*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Papers are accepted only on the written understanding, signed by all authors, that they are not published elsewhere without previous sanction of the Editorial Committee, and that all authors agree to publication in *Gut*. Manuscripts should follow the Vancouver conventions (see *Br Med J* 1979; 1: 532-5. *Gut* 1979; 20: 651-2). They should be in double-spaced typewriting on one side of the paper only. On the paper the name of the author should appear with initials (or distinguishing first name) only, and the name and address of the hospital or laboratory where the work was performed. A short summary should be provided at the beginning of the paper.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS Manuscripts will not be acknowledged unless a stamped addressed postcard or international reply coupon is enclosed.

ILLUSTRATIONS *Photographs* Unmounted photographs on glossy paper should be provided. *Diagrams* These will usually be reduced to 2½ in wide. Lettering should be in either Letraset or stencil, and care should be taken that lettering and symbols are of comparable size. Illustrations should not be inserted in the text, they should be marked on the back with Figure numbers, title of paper, and name of author. All photographs, graphs, and 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. *Tables* Tables should be numbered consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals and each typed on a separate sheet.

ETHICS Ethical considerations will be taken into account 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 the text they should be followed by traditional units in parentheses. In tables and illustrations value 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 the 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 long-term cimetidine. *Gut* 1979; 20: 123-4. **NB: Accurate punctuation is essential.**

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organisation of a support team, the practical aspects of the use of catheters including nursing techniques, and the prevention and treatment of complications. Other chapters supply details of the requirements for a comprehensive feeding programme. These include the ordering and preparation of parenteral solutions, the suitability and compatibility of TPN mixtures and a cost analysis of home feeding. Considerable attention is directed at the pharmaceutical components of a feeding programme in the chapters by G Tsallas. These give a much more balanced view of the subject than is usually found. He ends with an excellent short chapter which defines most of the terms in common use with great precision. The few black and white illustrations (such as those showing the operative manoeuvres for inserting a tunnel catheter in the deltopectoral region), are poorly printed, but they illustrate the technique clearly.

The book is carefully written with quite extensive reading lists at the end of the important chapters. It is recommended reading for all clinicians interested in the subject and especially for those in training who are part of a feeding team; it is a particularly useful guide for a hospital trying to set up a feeding programme.

EMANOEL C G LEE

Books received

Recent results in cancer research. Colorectal cancer
 Edited by W Duncan. (Pp. 156; illustrated; \$40.90.)
 Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag, 1982.

Progress in allergy. Host parasite relationships in gram-negative infections Edited by L A Hanson, P Kallos, O Westphal. (Pp. 344; illustrated; \$118.75.)
 Basel, Switzerland: S Karger, 1982.

Dietary fiber in health and disease Edited by G V Vahouny, D Kritchevsky. (Pp. 330; illustrated; £37.50.)
 New York: Plenum Publishing Corp, 1982.

News

2nd European Symposium on Gastrointestinal Motility

This symposium will be held in Oxford from 5-7 September 1984. Abstracts must be received by 1 April 1984. Further information may be obtained from Dr D L Wingate, London Hospital, Whitechapel Road, London E1 1BB.

9th International Hepatic Update 1984

To be held at The Royal Free Hospital, London, from 12-14 July 1984. Speakers include: Dame Sheila Sherlock (London), W Arnold (Bremen), L Blumgart (London), J Dienstag (Boston), G Johnston (Belfast), A Jones (Bethesda), R MacSween (Glasgow), K Okuda (Tokyo), J Rodes (Barcelona), N Tygstrup (Copenhagen), A Zuckerman (London), and staff of The Royal Free Hospital and School of Medicine. Further details are available from: Professor Neil McIntyre, The Royal Free Hospital, Pond Street, London NW3 2QG.

Société Nationale Français de Gastroenterologie

The 19th research forum and the 8th French meeting of hepatogastroenterology organised by this society will be held from 13-16 March 1984 at the Sofitel-Sèvres Hotel in Paris. Further information from Professor Y Le Quintrec, Hopital Rothschild, 33 Boulevard de Picpus, 75571, Paris, Cedex 12, France.

5th International Symposium on Gastrointestinal Hormones

This meeting, which is to provide a forum for the communication of recent research in gastrointestinal hormones, is to be held from 30 September to 3 October, 1984 in Rochester, Minnesota, USA. Abstracts must be received by 27 April 1984. Further details from Dr Vay Liang W Go, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota 55905, USA.

19th Czechoslovak Congress of Gastroenterology

This congress will be held from 12-16 November 1984 at Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia. Further details from Czechoslovak Medical Society, J E Purkyně, Czechoslovak Congress of Gastroenterology, Vítězného února 31, 120 26 Praha 2, Czechoslovakia.

6th International Conference on Alcohol Related Problems

This conference is to be held from 8-13 April 1984 in Liverpool. Further information from Dr A I Morris, Chairman, Conference Organising Committee, 1st Floor, Fruit Exchange, Victoria Street, Liverpool L2 6QU.

International Symposium on Alimentation and Diseases of the Upper Digestive Tract

This meeting will be held on 31 March 1984 in Genoa, Italy. Further details from Dr E Bovero, Divisione di Gastroenterologia, Ospedale S Martino, 16132 Genoa, Italy.

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For further details and Application Form please contact:

A G Butler, Medical Division, Glaxo Group Research Ltd.,
 Ware, Herts SG12 0DJ. Telephone: No. 0920 3993

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Just published

ABC OF COMPUTING

A J ASBURY

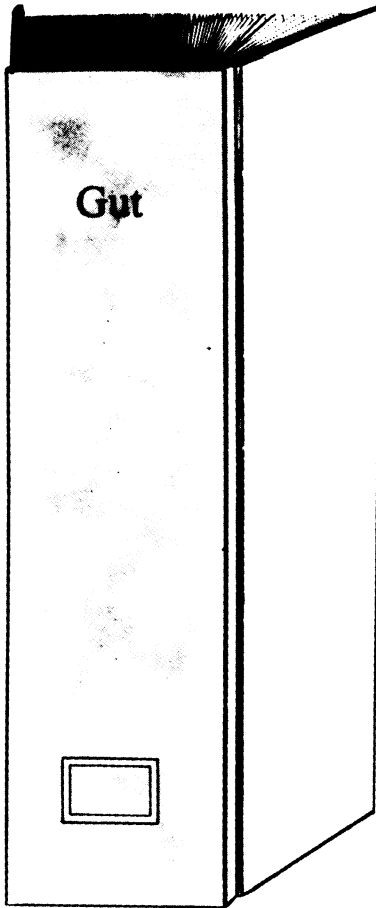
Although computers are being widely used in medicine, their possibilities and limitations are still not clear to many potential users. This book, aimed at the non-expert, describes some of the uses of computers in medicine; because most doctors' involvement will be indirect, liaising with computer experts rather than designing systems themselves, the book concentrates on concepts rather than detailed descriptions of how computers work. It provides a useful introduction for the doctor who wants to know how computers can contribute to his practice of medicine.

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