

# Gut

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Announcing the University of Nebraska Medical Center's  
Interdisciplinary International Symposium on

**GASTROINTESTINAL DYSFUNCTION IN  
NEUROLOGICAL DISEASE**

Wednesday-Thursday, September 22-23, 1993

Red Lion Hotel - Omaha, Nebraska

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** Clinicians and researchers in the area of  
Gastroenterology, Neurology, Physiology and Psychology

**PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:** Featuring state-of-the-art lectures from  
international experts, round-table discussions and original poster  
presentations on:

- Gut-brain interactions and their relevance to clinical disease.
- New concepts in neurological diseases commonly associated with  
gastrointestinal dysfunction.
- Pathophysiology and evaluation of gut dysfunction in the patient with  
neurological disease.
- Management strategies; including behavior modification, pharmacologic  
methods, nutritional support as well as endoscopic and surgical  
approaches.

**SYMPOSIUM DIRECTORS:**

**Samonn M. M. Quigley, M.D.**, Chief and Associate Professor, Department  
of Internal Medicine, Section of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition

**Ronald F. Pfeiffer, M.D.**, Chief and Associate Professor, Department of  
Internal Medicine, Section of Neurology

**SUBMITTED ABSTRACTS:** Submission of abstracts to be presented in  
poster presentation format will be accepted until June 1, 1993

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Center for Continuing Education,  
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specialist individual reviews of liver disease and pathophysiology, with an extensive reference list.

This volume's bibliography is limited to the most important or seminal publications. Basic biochemistry, physiology, and pharmacology are not presented separately but are incorporated into pathophysiology. What characterises the book, as well as the way in which the individual contributors have been brought together into a cohesive textbook – and there is much credit to Neil Kaplowitz as editor here – is the character of the text, with the use of bold print for bringing out important points, the excellent illustrations, and the use of review or summary tables. This adds up to an altogether admirable volume which must fulfil the purpose of the editor, namely to provide a useful and educationally portable tool.

I have dipped into a number of the chapters, including the initial first section on the structure and function of the liver; the accounts there, as in the clinical sections, are good, represent clear writing with balanced viewpoints, are above all readable and as already emphasised, superbly illustrated. This is a textbook that sets out to educate in hepatology rather than to serve as a vehicle of an individual author's or reviewer's cleverness or expertise in a particular field. It is up to date and can be strongly recommended.

ROGER WILLIAMS

**Advances in drug therapy of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease.** Edited by C Scarpignato. (Pp 371; not illustrated; £129.60.) Basel: Karger, 1992.

This book is a very mixed package. Some of the chapters are thoughtful, exceptionally well written, giving important insights into gastro-oesophageal reflux. These chapters include the introduction entitled 'Aims of Treatment in Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease' and a chapter entitled 'When is Oesophagitis healed?'. Many of the remaining chapters consist of reports of clinical trials. These are encyclopaedic and well referenced but, as might be expected in a book of this type, do not provide light bed time reading.

The most recent advances are possibly the use of cholecystokinin antagonists and motilides and these are introduced to us, being still in the developmental stage. The chapter entitled 'Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease is a Motility Disorder' is rather sketchy. It is generally agreed that inappropriate sphincter relaxation and lower oesophageal sphincter relaxation is the cause of gastro-oesophageal reflux but this is not explored in any depth and neither is the notion of designing drugs to cope with this abnormality.

The book is principally a book of record and reference but also with some useful thoughts to

guide further research in gastro-oesophageal reflux.

J F MACKENZIE

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## NOTES

### European Pancreatic Club

The European Pancreatic Club, XXVth Meeting will be held at Palais des Congrès, Paris, France on 20–23 October 1993. Further information and registration from CPS, 168 Quai Louis Blériot, 75016 Paris (tel: 45 24 34 63; fax: 45 25 73 77).

### American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases

The annual Postgraduate Course – New and Evolving Therapies for Hepatic and Biliary Diseases will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Chicago, Illinois on 4–5 November 1993. The Postgraduate Course will be followed by the 44th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases on 6–7 November 1993. Further information from: Registration Manager, SLACK Incorporated, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, New Jersey 08086–9447. Tel: 609 848 1000.

### Leeds Course on Clinical Nutrition

The Leeds Course in Clinical Nutrition will be held on 7–10 September 1993 at St James University Hospital, Leeds. Further information from: Mrs Hilary L Helme, Department of Continuing Professional Education, Continuing Education Building, Springfield Mount, Leeds LS2 9NG. Tel: 0532 333233.

### Symposium on Gastrointestinal Dysfunction in Neurological Disease

The Symposium on Gastrointestinal Dysfunction in Neurological Disease will be held from 22–23 September 1993 in Omaha, Nebraska. Further information from: Brenda Ram, The Center for Continuing Education, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 600 South 42nd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68198–5651. Tel: 402 559 4152.

### Second International Conference of Gastroenterology, Hong Kong and Chengdu

This conference will take place on 27–29 August 1993 in Hong Kong and on 30 August–2 September 1993 in Chengdu. Further information from: Conference Secretariat, Room 1611–13, World Finance Centre, North Tower, Harbour City, Kowloon, Hong Kong. Tel: 852 736–7837; fax: 852 376–0329.

### American Gastroenterological Association

The American Gastroenterological Association 1993 Fall Postgraduate Course – A Comprehensive Update and Review of Gastroenterology and Hepatology will be held on 9–12 September 1993 at Chicago Marriott Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. Further information from: Registration Manager, SLACK Incorporated, 6900 Grove Road, Thorofare, NJ 08086–9447. Tel: 609 848 1000; fax: 609 848 5274.

### Eighth International Workshop on Therapeutic Endoscopy

The Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Society of Digestive Endoscopy Eighth International Workshop on Therapeutic Endoscopy will be held on 30 November–2 December 1993. Further information from: Dr Sydney Chung, Combined Endoscopy Unit, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin, NT, Hong Kong. Tel: 852 636 2233; fax: 852 635 0075.

### Correction

Role of intragastric and intraoesophageal alkalinisation in the genesis of complications in Barrett's columnar lined lower oesophagus *Gut* 1993; 34: 11–5. We regret that an error occurred in the placement of the figure legends in this paper. Figure 1 was labelled with the legend for Fig 3, Fig 2 was labelled with the legend for Fig 1, and Fig 3 was labelled with the legend for Fig 2.

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**SI UNITS** All measurements except blood pressure are expressed in SI units. In tables and illustrations values are given in SI units. For general guidance on the International System of Units and some useful conversion factors, see *The SI for Health Professions* (WHO, 1977). **NB: Such conversion is the responsibility of the author.**

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