Reviews

Reviews of books for this section are welcomed, from osteopathic physicians and from faculty members in osteopathic institutions; see "Information for Contributors" for information on format. A certain number of reviews are invited, for books supplied to JAOA *by publishers; persons wishing to be part of this program should write to the editors, giving background and areas of interest.*

Complications of fracture management

Edited by Harry R. Gossling and Stephen L. Pillsbury. Pp. 565, with illus. J.B. Lippincott Co., East Washington Square, Philadelphia 19105, 1984. $67.50.

Complications of fracture management is an excellent book with an illustrious number of contributors. The work is well written and beautifully illustrated. However, I am not sure for whom the book was written. The first five pages provide review of the biology of fracture repair, nonunions, and pseudarthrosis. A thorough history of the bioelectric phenomena in the skeletal system and the electrical management of nonunited fractures is included. While this material is well discussed, the authors went into too much detail on the actual physiologic reasons for healing. On the other hand, in certain types of treatment, they oversimplified and promised very high success rates, although it should be noted that they did deal with a large collection of fractures.

The material on shock and metabolism in trauma could serve as a wonderful source for all doctors working in the emergency room. I recommend that this particular aspect of the book be reviewed. The pulmonary and vascular complications of fractures are also explored; however, no startling or new material is presented. The same holds true for genitourinary complications of fractures, multiple trauma, and infected fractures.

Illustrations of the complications of various fractures are included in the text, but, again, this material can be found elsewhere.

I maintain that this book would not be of any particular value to the physician in family practice. The experienced orthopedic surgeon may refer to this book when dealing with complicated fractures; however, it should be recognized that no particularly new procedures are detailed. *Complications of fracture management* contains material presented previously in many other books and periodicals; no startling developments or new ideas are tendered. The young student of orthopedics or a physician serving an orthopedic residency will find the text beneficial, for it is well illustrated, well defined, and supplemented by a historic review of the various types of fractures discussed.

JAMES C. BOLIN, D.O., FACOS, FAOAO
Kansas City, Missouri

Topics in gastroenterology: Volume 11

Edited by D.P. Jewell and H.A. Shepherd. Topics in Gastroenterology series; pp. 339, with illus. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Blackwell Mosby Book Distributors, 11830 Westline Industrial Dr., St. Louis 63141, 1983. $39.95.

This 339-page book represents a compilation of the material presented at the eleventh annual postgraduate course of the gastroenterology unit at the University of Oxford in January 1983. The course, a review and update, is directed to British physicians who specialize in internal medicine and/or gastroenterology. The course covers the following six areas: acute upper gastrointestinal tract bleeding; liver failure; hepatitis B; tropical gastroenterology; carcinoma of the colon; and Crohn's disease. There is no apparent attempt to cover these broad areas in depth, but selective aspects of each are well presented by 27 contributors.

The diagnosis of upper gastrointestinal bleeding is reviewed generally in the book's first four chapters; the role of endoscopy and radiology is discussed, the usual diagnoses are listed, and a few unusual diagnostic abnormalities are explored. The importance of appraising the value of various approaches to therapy in this area is noted, indicating that conclusions cannot yet be made. The value and application of visceral angiography in upper gastrointestinal bleeding is presented, and several endoscopic methods of treatment are detailed. The need for randomized studies to prove the value of these therapies is established.

The pathophysiology of hepatic failure is reviewed and updated; however, portal hypertension is excluded from the discussion. The management of chronic hepatic encephalopathy and acute hepatic failure are dealt with fairly completely in separate chapters.

The natural history and management of type B hepatitis (including prophylaxis and relationship to hepatocellular carcinoma) are presented and updated in two chapters.

A good review and update of tropical sprue is provided. The effect of any type of tropical diarrhea on a patient's nutrition is also examined. A third chapter in this area deals with hepatic amebiasis, schistosomiasis, and hydatid cyst of the liver. Abdominal tuberculosis and its varied manifestations is described in another chapter.

Carcinoma of the colon is re-

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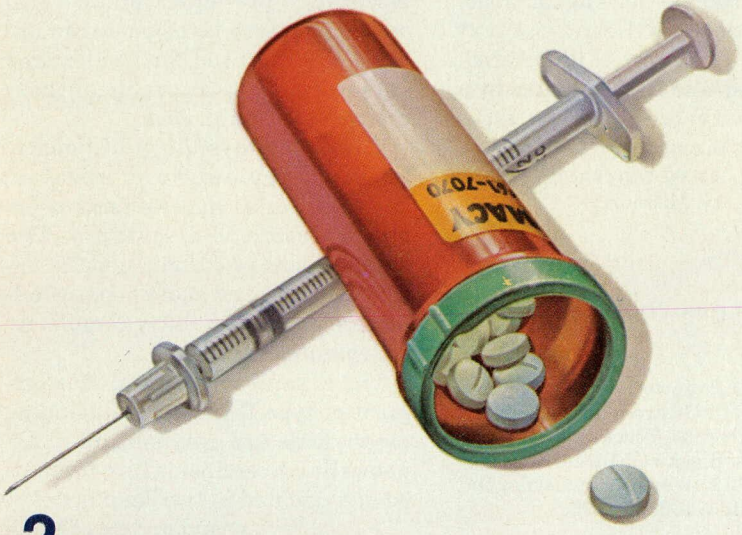

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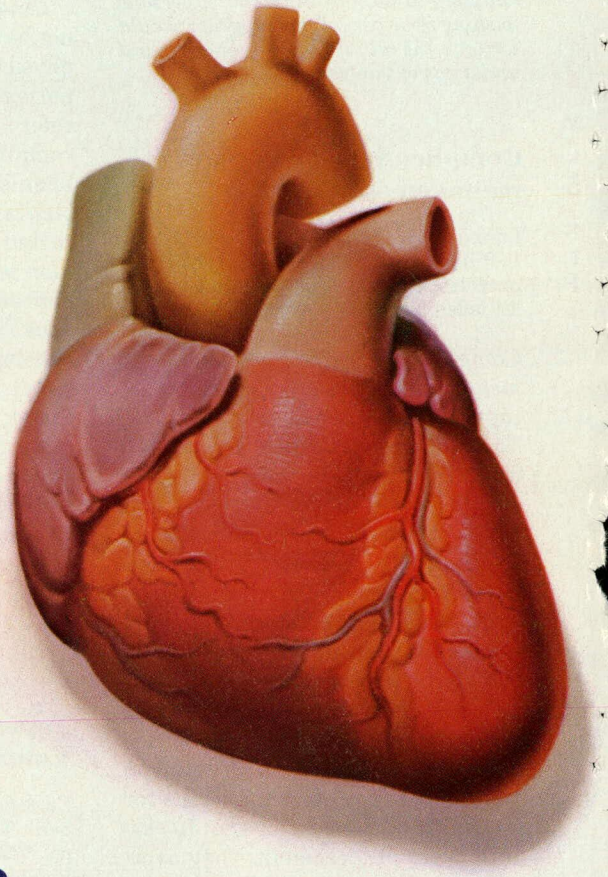

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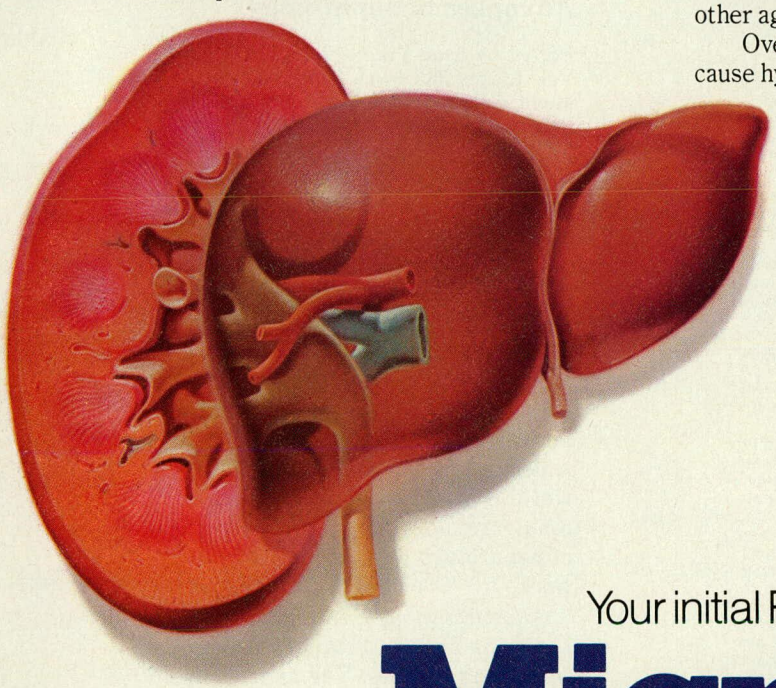

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viewed in four chapters; epidemiology, experimental carcinogenesis, and surgical and chemotherapeutic management are explored. A fifth chapter discusses natural history and management of metastatic colon carcinoma; this area is updated reasonably well.

The natural history and function of immunologic mechanisms in the pathophysiology of Crohn's disease, along with the role of split ileostomy in treatment, are analyzed as well.

In total, *Topics in gastroenterology: Volume 11*, maintains the reputation of its 10 predecessors. The work is a concise, well-written, gastroenterology conference report. I recommend the book specifically to primary physicians and nongastroenterologists who wish to update and review their knowledge of gastroenterology.

MURRAY H. COHEN, D.O., FACOI
Chairman, Department of
Internal Medicine
Phoenix General Hospital
Phoenix, Arizona

Advances in nephrology

Edited by Jean-Pierre Grünfeld, et al. Vol. 13, pp. 383, with illus. Year Book Medical Publishers, Inc., 35 E. Wacker Dr., Chicago 60601, 1984. $57.95.

This volume is one of a continuing series of books published by Year Book Medical Publishers over the past 13 years. All of the material emanated from Necker Hospital in Paris, France. This edition's French editors include Jean-Francois Bach, M.D., D.Sc.; Jean Crosnier, M.D.; Jean-Louis Funck-Bretano, M.D., and Jean-Pierre Grünfeld, M.D. The American editor is Morton H. Maxwell, M.D. A series of articles on renal physiology and clinical aspects of nephrology are presented in the work.

Advances in nephrology is very interesting and it contains many entertaining articles. The articles are footnoted, and adequate references are provided for review. Unfortunately, however, there is no order to the articles to provide a cohesive outline of the book. The articles themselves are nicely outlined in the table of contents, and an index is provided.

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