

book what is required to answer specific questions about individual tumour types, while having the detailed background information available if required. Perhaps more importantly, this structure is achieved without detriment to the content, as the information presented is clear and up-to-date with many references from 1996. Finally, for both those unfamiliar with the field and those who have fallen behind in their reading, this book provides an excellent place to start.

C S HERRINGTON

Stress-Inducible Cellular Responses.

Feige U, Morimoto R I, Yahara I, Polla B S, eds. (DM198.00, sFr178.00.) Birkhauser Verlag. 1996. ISBN 376 435205 1.

The cover of this book states: "... intended for every stress laboratory as a source of knowledge and perspectives," and that sums it up precisely. The book is a comprehensive, in-depth volume covering aspects of cell stress from toxic metal responses to protein folding in the endoplasmic reticulum. The in-depth nature of the chapters and the lack of many diagrams makes this a serious read for those involved in areas of, or closely allied to, the heat shock response. Those who work through the chapters will, however, be rewarded by articles of quality written by many of the experts in this field of research.

The book is divided into five parts covering: functions of stress proteins in unstressed cells (normal folding, translocation, receptors, and protein breakdown); regulation of inducible stress responses (methods of sensing cell stress, effect of heat shock on enzyme activities, and SOS response to DNA damage); cellular responses to specific stresses (UV activation of stress proteins, signalling events that control the stress response, and toxic metal responsive transcription); paradigms for complex stress responses (including viral infection, inflammation, and aging); and applications of stress responses in toxicology and pharmacology. The final chapter includes articles on stress

proteins as biomarkers for environmental toxicology and the use of heat shock proteins as immunological carriers and vaccines.

The comprehensive scope of the articles in this volume will result in queues for this book at most university libraries as soon as dissertations are requested on any topic relating to heat shock.

R J MAYER

Monoclonal Antibodies: Principles and Practise. 3rd ed. Goding J W. (Pp 492; £29.50.) Academic Press. 1996. ISBN 012 287023 9.

I welcomed the first edition of this text, immediately purchased the second (1986, 315 pages) but am disappointed by the limited coverage of the third (492 pages). The first and second editions were entirely concerned with mouse monoclonal antibodies, however, the decade between the second and third editions has seen a major broadening of techniques for producing monoclonal antibodies—for example, human-mouse heterohybridomas and phage display libraries, that are not given due weight in this volume. The author acknowledges this to some extent in his introduction stating "the advantages of a single author book... may soon be outweighed by the logistical impossibility of one individual covering all of the necessary areas". Another strength of earlier editions is diluted by the authors admission that "my ability to speak from hands-on experience is less than it used to be".

The expansion of the volume is due to the inclusion of six chapters of basic immunology (115 pages), and the addition of a chapter on immunohistology (20 pages). Personally, I doubt whether this volume would be purchased by any institution or individual who did not already have at least one or more basic texts available and known to them. In short, therefore, the argument for up-dating is slim, but affordable at £29.50.

R JEFFERIS

Path-cyclopedia (CD-ROM; Mac/Windows versions). (\$295.00, residents; \$495.00, individuals; \$695.00, institutions.) Lippincott-Raven. 1996.

Having invested a considerable sum of money on the "hard copy" version of this book and found it most useful, I was intrigued to investigate the relative utility of the CD-ROM equivalent. It certainly weighs much less! Both the Mac and PC versions require 8 Mb of RAM and 11 Mb (PC) or 8 Mb (MAC) of free hard disk space.

The reader may wonder why I am reviewing a disk that, in its conventional form, is entitled *Diagnostic surgical pathology*. The encouraging fact is that, as both a diagnostic and research pathologist, I find the book and disk most stimulating in that molecular considerations lie in the text almost as a matter of course, reminiscent of the inclusion of immunocytochemical data in groundbreaking diagnostic texts 15 years ago.

Certainly, the quality of production of the CD-ROM reflects the beauty of its mother book and the similar price seems reasonable in relation to the present market. Why should I buy the disk rather than the book? There are two main reasons. First, the ease of cross-referencing is the forte of CD-ROMs, and in a massive body of information such as this, that is of great importance. Second, the disk version comes with a Medline search facility and, as a further bonus, the contents of *Diagnostic Molecular Pathology*, *Applied Immunohistochemistry*, and the *American Journal of Dermatopathology*. What more could a histopathologist want? Furthermore, updates are promised.

In conclusion, I cannot recommend this CD-ROM strongly enough. It may not so readily fall into my hands as the paper version but will inevitably, because of its medium, lead me into many side-tracked diversions as I work my way through the cross-referencing. I only hope that I learn as I go along! Perhaps I now need a powerful lap-top.

J CROCKER



Path-cyclopedia

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