
In its two volumes and over 1100 pages this work is a compilation of the knowledge of some of the finest ophthalmologists practising today, though it must be admitted the list of authors is confined largely to those from the United States. For the most part the editors have achieved a remarkable consistency in style with the exception of the many fine line drawings, which do reflect the differing techniques of the six principal illustrators. The illustrations are copious and informative, and the lack of colour plates is hardly noticed at all. Because each chapter is written by an acknowledged expert, the text becomes clear and effortless to read.

Inevitably there are omissions and for the most part they are not a serious detraction from the quality of the work. I personally would have enjoyed a chapter on surgical instrumentation and materials and a few introductory remarks on the simple but important subjects of incisions and correct suturing techniques. It is impossible to discuss each chapter or even each section in the detail they deserve, but the purposes of this review can be served by my mentioning two sections, one in which I have a major interest and one in which my interest is perhaps less keen. The section on the cornea is well balanced ranging from penetrating keratoplasty to keratoprosthesis. (I was relieved to read that the author of the chapter did not have much enthusiasm for the latter technique.) The chapter on lamellar keratoplasty was a welcome sight in an American textbook, though perhaps Woltman (the author) might have given a slightly better idea of how difficult the procedure is.

Notes
Immunopathology of intraocular inflammation

A symposium on recent developments in the immunopathology of intraocular inflammation will be held in Amsterdam on 31 October to 3 November 1989. Details from Dr A Kijlstra, Department of Ophthalmo-immunopathology, Netherlands Ophthalmic Research Institute, PO Box 12141, 1100 AC Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Ophthalmic photography

An International Conference on Ophthalmic Photography (ICOP '90) will be held at Singapore on 14–17 March 1990. Details from Lawrence M Merin, RBP, Meeting Chairman ICOP '90, Cullen Eye Institute, Baylor College of Medicine, 6501 Fannin, Houston, Texas 77030, USA.

Paediatric surgery

The 4th Stelitz Paediatric Surgical Symposium on 'Laser application in children' will be held in Berlin on 10–11 November 1989 at the International Congress Centre. Details from Dr Felix Schier, Department of Paediatric Surgery, Free University of Berlin, Hindenburgdamm 30, 1000 Berlin 45, West Germany.