TABLE I Patients with various diagnoses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>FA</th>
<th>USG</th>
<th>RIS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>Disciform macular degeneration with subretinal neovascularization</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Haemangiom</td>
<td>±</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Neovascular or melanoma</td>
<td>±</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Retinal pigment epithelial hyperplasia</td>
<td>±</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Retinal pigment epithelial dystrophy</td>
<td>±</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FA = fluorescein angiography. USG = ultrasonography. RIS = radioimmunoangiography. NA = not available.

The possibility of a false positive result due to tracer uptake in a neovus should be kept in mind.


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BOOK REVIEWS


In this book, the first devoted entirely to PVR, the editors have assembled 27 papers dealing with the pathology, the management, and current research into this difficult condition. The material is presented under three main headings: an update, a discussion of common concerns, and reports of current clinical and research studies.

After an introductory overview of the general concepts of PVR there follows a number of clinical papers on the management of it in its increasing stages of complexity. These range from clinical and animal studies of the role of scleral buckling, and expansile gases without vitrectomy by Stanley Chang, to Zivotic's astounding collection of longstanding retinal detachments in severely traumatised eyes and their nearly miraculous recovery. The middle section is devoted to an almost verbatim transcript of a round table discussion by a number of well known experts in the vitreoretinal field.

The last 17 articles range from a description of the organisation of the multicentre treatment trial which compares the use of silicone oil with that of expansile gases, to purely laboratory studies of drug delivery and the pharmacological manipulation of the cellular processes involved in the pathogenesis of PVR.

This book is useful for those concerned in the management of patients with PVR. Being mostly a compilation of papers presented at the 1986 Academy Meeting, it suffers from a certain amount of repetition in the introductions and discussions in each paper. The 'current research studies' are by now over two years old, and much has happened since in the busy research on the intricacies of proliferative vitreoretinopathy.

Z J GREGOR


This is a beautifully produced book which covers most clinical aspects of diabetic retinopathy. It also has chapters on pathology, together with four chapters on diabetic tissue damage and coagulation changes. There is a useful chapter on differential diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy. The book could be particularly useful to residents wanting to learn about this common condition, which is a major cause of blindness in the developed world.

But there are also many shortcomings. Papers are cited and reviewed without any criticism, and all statements made by different authors from different books are cited without any indication of which studies are based on too few patients or inadequate statistical analysis. Nor do the authors come up with definite suggestions or conclusions at the end of the chapters; this is most noticeable in chapter 14, on medical treatment of diabetic retinopathy.

A further shortcoming is that, when discussing pathogenic mechanisms, the authors do not mention the tremendous amount of work done in the field of genetics. The papers quoted are extensive, but there are almost none from 1987 and few from 1986. Thus, although a new book, it is in the non-clinical aspects already out of date. This is also an indication of the rapid expansion of work in the field of retinopathy and the slow production of books.

While the book is a useful addition for residents, I do not think that it is of value to the researcher in the field of diabetic retinopathy.

E M KOHNER


This superb collection of illustrations covers a wide ranging though at times eclectic collection of topics on contact lenses. They demonstrate the author's breadth of expertise in many areas of contact lens practice, particularly in lens materials and design and in the fitting of the abnormal eye. The text is sometimes too concise to illustrate the understanding of the pedestrian reader, though the diagrams do much to overcome this. The book is an entertaining compendium to more formal texts on contact lens practice.

JOHN DART


The Rodin Remediation Conferences have acquired a reputation for excellence if occasionally eccentric meetings, in which a goodly collection of eminent speakers from a field of disciplines and perspectives read a handful of more controversial and shadowy figures from the world of dyslexia research. In the early meetings there was a strong emphasis on visual factors, but this has progressively declined to the point where in these proceedings less than one-third of the papers are concerned with the visual system.

This is not a book for the novice. The papers do not follow a coherent theme, and the editorial contribution is largely confined to