

**New Cardiovascular Drugs—1985**, ed by Alexander Scriabine, New York, Raven Press, 1985, 308 pp, \$49.50.

This text is the third in a series of annual volumes dealing with agents which may be added to the therapeutic options for the treatment of cardiac disease. The chapters are a series of discussions about drugs in various stages of either developmental or pre-clinical or very early clinical investigation. Diuretics, converting enzyme inhibitors, beta blockers, inotropes and single examples of new antiarrhythmics, calcium blocking agents, vasodilators, renal vasodilators, and cerebrovasoactive agents are mentioned.

Each chapter gives detailed information about pharmacology, metabolism, toxicity, and clinical data. Occasionally, the initial developmental strategy and beginning steps in synthesis are reviewed. The chapters are written and presented in a clear fashion with well-reproduced illustrations and good section headings that make reference easy. For the most part, the chapters are written by the researchers closely involved with the developmental process and early test-

ing of each drug so that enthusiasm is understandably high for each.

*New Cardiovascular Drugs* could be a useful reference for a clinical pharmacologist, and individual chapters may be interesting and useful to clinical researchers dealing with one of the specific classes of agents discussed. But for the busy clinical practitioner, the material probably will be less helpful due to the extensive detail and the fact that many of the agents may not become available for routine use for some period of time, if ever.

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#### **Book received**

**Anatomy as a Basis for Clinical Medicine**, by E. C. B. Hall-Craggs, Baltimore, Urban & Schwarzenberg, 1985, 658 pages.