

## Book Reviews

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**End Points for Cardiovascular Drug Studies, Vol 12** of *Atherosclerosis Reviews*, ed by Ruth Johnsson Hegyeli, New York, Raven Press, 1985, 200 pages, \$49.50.

This book is a summary of a 1983 conference. The contributions are divided equally between investigators from Italy and the United States. Unfortunately, the publication of these submitted papers doomed the possibility of an integrated approach. A clear structure might have been achieved by only publishing contributions from a limited number of specialists in diverse fields (such as clinical cardiology, clinical pharmacology, epidemiology, lipid metabolism, and coagulation and platelet function) or the inclusion of a comprehensive chapter by the editor reviewing the entire field of end points and putting the contributions into perspective. Some of the chapters clearly relate to the subject, but others stray from the intended mark. Clinical studies of atherosclerotic disease and arrhythmias, biological end points, and monitoring techniques (primarily ultrasound) are the main subjects discussed. Although many chapters would be interesting to a clinical cardiologist, readers who have a strong interest in end points for drug studies will be disappointed.

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**Cardiovascular Radiology**, by Eugene Gedgaudas, James H. Moller, Wilfrido R. Castaneda-Zuniga, and Kurt Amplatz, Philadelphia, W. B. Saunders, 1985, 269 pages, \$44.95.

*Cardiovascular Radiology* is a comprehensive work illustrated with well-selected radiographic and echocardiographic examples pertinent to the subject.

The initial four chapters set the stage for the remaining sections that deal with congenital and acquired cardiac disease. This book begins with an excellent review of cardiac embryology, which is complemented by extremely good diagrams of the development of the heart, great arteries, and systemic and pulmonary arterial and venous systems. A discussion

of fetal circulation and a short description of cardiac anatomy are also included in the first chapter. The second chapter describes cardiac hemodynamics with emphasis on auscultatory physiology. The discussion of cardiac catheterization primarily deals with various pressure measurements and oximetric data. Notably absent is a section about contrast materials and catheterization techniques. The third chapter is a good discussion of echocardiography. Chapter 4 evaluates the radiographic cardiac silhouette in the posteroanterior, lateral, and both oblique positions; identification of specific chamber enlargement is emphasized.

Chapters 5 through 10 deal with congenital heart disease and use pulmonary vascularity as the key to classification. Evaluation of valvular abnormalities on plain views of the thorax, focusing on identification of valvular prostheses, is covered in the eleventh chapter. The final two chapters, entitled "Acquired Myocardial and Pericardial Disease" and "Acquired Vascular Disease," are excellent.

In general, *Cardiovascular Radiology* is extremely well written and would be a valuable addition to the personal library of both aspiring cardiologists and radiologists.

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**Physiology of the Intestinal Circulation**, ed by A. P. Shephard and D. N. Granger, New York, Raven Press, 1984, 440 pages, \$76.00.

As stated in the preface, the editors of this book wanted to devote an entire text to the intestinal circulation—an area which had been relegated to a secondary position when compared to coronary or cerebral circulation. Their efforts have been successful.

The book is divided into five sections. The first and second sections (Blood Flow Regulation and Hemodynamics, and Intestinal Transcapillary Exchange) deal in great detail with various aspects of the regulation of intestinal blood flow. Some parts are difficult to understand and may seem irrelevant to the clinical