Advances in Hemoglobin Analysis

Progress in Clinical and Biological Research: Volume 60

Edited by S. M. Hanash and G. J. Brewer
Alan R. Liss; New York, 1981
xii + 212 pages. £15.00

This small book reports the proceedings of a workshop held in 1980. Because of this, the contents of the book do not represent an overview of the subject but rather reflect the methodology favoured by those attending the meeting. Nevertheless, there are good descriptions of 'high performance liquid chromatography' applied to various haemoglobin analyses which fill ~40% of the book followed by descriptions of a number of other specialised techniques. A considerable proportion of the material has already been published, at least in part, in other papers by the authors concerned. Nevertheless, the book represents a useful collection of haemoglobin methodology and as such should be available in laboratories working in this area.

E. R. Huehns

Bile Acids and Lipids

Edited by G. Paumgartner, A. Stiel and W. Gerok
MTP; Lancaster, 1981
xx + 384 pages. £24.95

Biochemists unconcerned with liver disease may not know about Dr Herbert Falk. This remarkable man controls pharmaceutical Companies in Freiburg-im-Breisgau and Basle and has decided that education in a wide sense would be a good means of promotion. Beginning in 1970, he has sponsored biennial Bile Acid Congresses together with much larger Liver Meetings in Freiburg or Basle. From the start, these gatherings have been freely open, truly international and run and attended by the undoubted experts. Thus, they have been increasingly valuable scientific and medical occasions at which Dr Falk himself, a generous and genial host, never fails to provide an excursion to the Black Forest, his country since childhood, and samples of local social customs as well as food and the splendid Rhenish wines. Some German students have protested on political grounds, but this example of patronage has been of real benefit to scientists and clinicians alike as well as, one hopes, to the latters' patients. If Dr Falk has gained also, he deserves to profit from his courage and wide-ranging imagination.

The present volume is the fifth in the series and consists of papers presented at Falk's 6th Bile Acid meeting in Freiburg in October 1980. These include extended reports of recent work on cholesterol and bile acid biosynthesis, on the relationships between bile acids and bile salts and cholesterol absorption from the intestine, on lipoproteins and other plasma lipids and on the secretion of lipids into bile, as well as on miscellaneous subjects. A 'workshop' concerning the dissolution of gallstones in situ by oral treatment with chenodeoxycholic or ursodeoxycholic acids gives the position as seen in 1980. (A brief summary [Lancet (1981) ii, 905] brings the subject to date.) Most of the papers are thorough, scholarly, well-illustrated and supplied with references. The book is well produced and has a good Index.

The editors and publishers can be congratulated on the small interval between the meeting and this excellent account of the work presented at it. No biochemical or medical library will wish to be without this book, which should be read by all who wish to keep up with work on lipid metabolism and the consequences of its malfunction.

G. A. D. Haslewood

Endocrinology

by G. J. Goldsworthy, J. Robinson and W. Mordue
Blackie; Glasgow, London, 1981
xiv + 184 pages £7.95 (limp); £16.95 (cased)

The stated aim of the authors is to break through the traditional organ-by-organ approach to endocrinology by concentrating on the fundamental concepts and illustrating them with selected examples taken from vertebrate and invertebrate systems. This is undoubtedly a very worthwhile goal, but to what extent does this book achieve it?

The first 4 chapters (in this 8 chapter book) concentrate on the general principles fundamental to the structure and function of endocrine producing cells, the modes of actions of hormones, the experimental assessment of endocrine function and the evolution of endocrine systems. These chapters are clearly presented and do indeed provide a reasonably good introduction to the subject of endocrinology. The last 4 chapters examine the involvement of hormones in specific systems, namely: metabolism, the skin and skeleton, reproduction and morphogenesis, and ionic and osmotic regulation. In these chapters, it is surprising that the authors seem to fall into the very trap that they were trying to avoid: i.e., presenting a system-by-system approach and assuming that the reader will recognise the significance of common features. Thus each chapter starts with an extremely brief introduction and then launches into separate accounts of the endocrine controls operating in various systems in vertebrates and invertebrates. None of the chapters end with a concluding or summarising discussion. It is unfortunate that such an arrangement of the text detracts somewhat from the book's potential use and attraction.

Perhaps the most unsatisfactory and ultimately annoying aspect of this book was the content quality and arrangement of the figures. These fall far short of expectation. A text of this sort requires clear and concise figures to illustrate and clarify the points under discussion. Unfortunately, all too often far too much information (some of which was never referred to in the text) was presented for the space available, and such overcrowding of information resulted in the most salient features being camouflaged in a wealth of less important detail. Inexperienced students are unlikely to find such diagrams either helpful or stimulating.

The undoubted attraction of this book lies in its compilation and presentation of information on vertebrate and invertebrate systems and as such it may prove a useful text for some comparative courses. Before recommending it to students, however, some care should be exercised in determining to what extent the discussion of the particular endocrine systems in the last 4 chapters of the book meets the needs of the specific course under consideration.

S. R. Milligan

Bile acids, once produced in the liver, are transported across the canalicular membrane of the hepatocytes into the bile and stored in the gallbladder. After each meal, gallbladder bile acids are released into the intestinal tract, efficiently reabsorbed in the ileum, and transported back to the liver via portal blood for reexcretion into the bile.Â After meal intake, gallbladder releases bile into the small intestine where bile acids facilitate the absorption of dietary lipids and vitamins. At the terminal ileum, most of the bile acids are reabsorbed by ASBT into the enterocytes, and secreted into the portal circulation via basolateral bile acid transporters OstÎ±/OstÎ². Bile acid, and lipid level remains inconsistent in post-bariatric patients. To explore bile acid and glucose, lipid, and liver enzyme changes in different diabetic status underwent sleeve gastrectomy. To discuss the impact of bariatric surgery and its potential benefits to Cite. Download full-text. Bile acid, glucose, lipid profile, and liver enzyme changes in pre-diabetics after sleeve gastrectomy. Preprint. Full-text available.Â Background Few articles have studied pre-diabetes after sleeve gastrectomy. Bile acid, and lipid metabolism remains inconsistent in post-bariatric patients. Objective To explore bile acid and glucose, lipid, and liver enzyme changes in different diabetic status underwent sleeve gastrectomy. To discuss the impact of bariatric surgery and its potenti Cite. Other lipids from the bile, like phospholipids and cholesterol are also included in the formation of mixed micelles [9] (fig. 5). Furthermore will also the formation of FFA and MAG as a result of the action of the lipases towards the different positions on the TAGs help to increase the rate of emulsification.Â Westergaard, H. and J.M. Dietschy, The mechanism whereby bile acid micelles increase the rate of fatty acid and cholesterol uptake into the intestinal mucosal cell. J Clin Invest, 1976. 58(1): p. 97-108.