concerns. The topics covered range from individual therapies, family and group therapy as well as pharmacological approaches and a review of inpatient treatments.

There is a group of chapters dealing with the all important consultative and liaison work, parenting breakdown and the subsequent intervention, treatment and follow-up, how we organise treatment services, and a comprehensive review of preventive approaches within child psychiatry. As befits a series of articles that were published in the *Archives* the accent is on the liaison between ourselves and hospital and community paediatricians. The only omission is perhaps behavioural and cognitive behavioural approaches which are undertaken with the child directly, as well as planned home visits to parents which are well covered in the book.

I will recommend this book to the groups for whom it is aimed, but I am sure that its appeal will be wider, as it forms such a helpful anaphor on child abuse and disorders which will be useful to busy practitioners of child and adolescent psychiatry itself. Definitely one for your individual shelf and not just the library.

**DAVID P H JONES**
Consultant child and family psychiatrist

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It is customary for trainees in general psychiatry to have an opportunity to work in child psychiatry as part of their training. However, child and adolescent psychiatry practice varies considerably from adult psychiatry. This book has been written as part of a series of Royal College of Psychiatry seminars intended to help junior doctors during their training years. It is a multiauthored book by experienced child and adolescent psychiatrists. It provides a comprehensive and practical introduction to the subject of child and adolescent psychiatry.

It follows a standard textbook approach but most chapters are short and easy to read. Chapters include the history of child psychiatry, normal and abnormal development, developmental delays that are of relevance to child psychiatric practice, and aetiological factors. There are detailed descriptions of classification systems in child psychiatry and of individual clinical syndromes divided according to the developmental stages at which they are most troublesome or apparent. There are sections describing the various treatment modes in child psychiatry as well as specific chapters on child abuse and disorders of parenting, forensic child and adolescent psychiatry, liaison work, and on continuities between child and adult problems.

The book is probably of more relevance to a paediatrician than a paediatrician reader and there is limited coverage of the problems most commonly encountered at the paediatric clinic. It should, however, be useful as an introductory text to the subject of child and adolescent psychiatry for trainees in psychiatry.

**M E GARRALDA**
Professor of child and adolescent psychiatry

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Thomas Huxley once remarked that the greatest tragedy of science was the slaying of beautiful hypotheses by ugly facts. The research into cystic fibrosis is a classic example but at long last there is real hope that the pool of knowledge obtained from molecular studies with the delta F508 and other cystic fibrosis associated mutations will lead to the development of effective medical treatments. Anyone with whatever interest in cystic fibrosis will find these and other issues discussed in this delightful volume, which is largely of interest to the general public.

**A STANTON**
Consultant community paediatrician

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**Archives of Disease in Childhood 1994; 70: 254**

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Handbook

Child Abuse and Neglect. A Clinician’s Handbook

A Stanton

Arch Dis Child 1994 70: 254
doi: 10.1136/adc.70.3.254-a

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