The method described by Ryley et al. (1975) relies upon the fact that a ratio of albumin : α₁-antitrypsin in the meconium of less than 2·0 makes pancreatic insufficiency unlikely, while the method used by Antonowicz et al. (1976) depends upon the presence of lactase in the meconium of infants with cystic fibrosis. This lactase will hydrolyse an added solution of lactose producing glucose and galactose, and the glucose may then be detected by ‘Dextrostix’. It is hoped that the above methods will succeed in reducing the number of false-positive results, and thereby lessen the natural anxiety which parents feel before the diagnosis of cystic fibrosis can be definitely excluded.

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Benign urinary infection in girls
Sir,

Girls whose urine refluxes into the vagina at micturition can suffer sudden dampness, sometimes with foul urine, dysuria, and ascending infections (Hughes-Davies, 1966). Some such may belong to the group described by Dr. Welch and his colleagues (Welch et al., 1976) and it would be interesting to know whether there is vaginal filling in their lateral cystograms, and whether they are helped by advice to separate the labia at micturition.

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