
The book has chapters on the general principles of treatment and its organisation, an outline of different treatment approaches and their synthesis, assessment for treatment, treatment procedures, therapy in groups, the problems of deformity and a (much too brief) chapter on equipment. There is a good index and a reasonable list of references which happily do not interrupt the text. It is copiously illustrated, although some of the line drawings are not as explicit as they are attractive. The book concentrates on the details of treatment and, as such, it is written primarily for those who treat rather than for those who prescribe treatment; but a cursory understanding of those techniques would be of benefit to all who work in this field.

Shorter notices


This follows the familiar and excellent form of its predecessors. Well written and informative abstracts of well-chosen papers from the 1976–77 literature, including many from nonpaediatric journals. Often followed by characteristically witty and pithy comments from the editor, or by longer critical reviews. Well indexed, entertaining, and instructive to browse through; invaluable for reference.


Proceedings of a 1975 symposium in Toronto. About two-thirds of the book is concerned with basic sciences, largely mechanisms and pathogenesis of fever, although there is some neuroanatomy and neurophysiology. The other third deals with clinical aspects of febrile convulsions – sequelae and prophylaxis. Most of the work reviewed by Onsted, Aicardie and Chevrier, Wallace, Falconer, and Lennox-Buchthal has been published before. The work of Nelson and Ellenberg suggesting a very benign outcome in a large population study of febrile convulsions was presumably not available to the symposium. The interested clinician will find the first two-thirds of the book hard work and the last third to contain disappointingly little that is new.


The first edition was reviewed in 1973 (p. 588) as ‘most impressive’ and enthusiastically recommended. This second edition incorporates the important advances in treating lymphomas and leu aemia, Wilms’s tumour, osteosarcoma, and rhabdomyosarcoma.


A very large amount of both experimental and clinical work, much of it of the highest class, is described, the book’s title hardly indicating the width of the subject matter discussed. Copiously illustrated, and well indexed. But why is it impossible to discover when the symposium took place which the book reports?


The first edition was reviewed in 1974 (p. 973); it provides perhaps the most complete coverage of perinatology of any of the many books published in the past few years in this field. Yet some disappo...