

ventricular function, we have been unimpressed with the benefits of such diuretics as frusemide. In babies with pulmonary hypertension (raised RPEP/RVET ratio) tolazoline may be helpful though its action is unpredictable. We reserve tolazoline for cases where arterial oxygen tension cannot be kept above 40 mmHg by other methods, which include mechanical ventilation.<sup>4</sup>

We disagree with Chiswick and Sims in their suggestion of adoption of the term 'maladaptation syndrome' (lo and behold another new name!) even if they try to determine aetiology without 'resort to echocardiography'. We believe that M-mode echocardiography has helped to clarify aetiology and prognosis of many of the respiratory syndromes of the newborn.<sup>5</sup>

We reiterate the advice in the last sentence of our paper that these infants should be cared for in neonatal intensive care units where close monitoring and mechanical ventilation are available.

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## Book reviews

**The Intersex Child.** By Nathalie Josso. Pediatric and Adolescent Endocrinology Series. Volume 8. Series Editor Z Laron. (Pp. 273; illustrated + tables. Sw fr 165 soft cover.) Karger: Basel. 1981.

This is the most recent addition to the series and it is perhaps the most successful despite the rather outré title. Dr Josso has chosen a strong team of authors; almost all are acknowledged experts in their particular fields, and by exercising firm editorial control she has kept the amount of unnecessary repetition to a minimum and has produced a well balanced book.

The initial chapters review current concepts of sexual differentiation and development of gender identity; these are followed by discussion of three different aspects of special investigation—cytogenetic analysis, H-Y antigen detection, and radiological investigation. More detailed discussions of the different types of intersex disorder follow—for example, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, true hermaphroditism, gonadal dysgenesis, errors of testosterone metabolism, and the androgen insensitivity syndromes. The last section of the book covers different aspects of the management of intersex states—for example, the legal implications,

surgical treatment, and psychological management. Almost without exception each chapter is of a high standard and has a useful list of references.

This book should be particularly valuable to the clinician who has to treat children or adults with genital anomalies. In addition it will be a useful supplement to the much less detailed discussions of intersex which are found in most textbooks of paediatrics or endocrinology, and should find a place on the shelves of many medical libraries.

D B GRANT

**Pediatric Andrology.** Edited by S J Kogan and E S E Hafez. Clinics in Andrology Series. Volume 7. Series Editor E S E Hafez. (Pp. 220; illustrated + tables. 140 Dfls.) Nijhoff; The Hague. 1981.

This is based on the proceedings of the first Pan American Congress of Andrology in 1979. A range of aspects of male genital development is discussed in 18 papers, some of which deal with basic biological aspects such as the characteristics of urogenital epithelium, Mullerian inhibiting hormone, the ontogeny of androgen receptors, and the possible relationships between H-Y

antigen and gonadal differentiation. The effects of sex hormones on brain differentiation in the rat and their possible effects on gender identity in man are discussed in three chapters, and the final section is devoted to more clinical topics such as cryptorchidism, gonadotrophin therapy, and management of micropenis.

In common with many books which are based on conference proceedings this lacks the balance of a well-edited monograph and this is accentuated by a wide variation in the standard of different chapters. For example, the contribution by Wachtel and New on H-Y antigen completely eclipses many of the other chapters which are based on rather limited experimental data or on somewhat outdated clinical reviews.

Many clinicians will find items of interest but it is more likely to be of value to the reader who seeks an introduction to some of the basic aspects of sexual differentiation in the male.

D B GRANT

**Pediatric Pharmacology. Therapeutic Principles in Practice.** Edited by S J Yaffe. (Pp. 493; illustrated + tables. \$44.50 hardback.) Grune & Stratton: New York. 1980.