would have been valuable if it had succeeded in emphasising aspects relevant to the adolescent, but the result is superficial and heavily dependent on lists that also lack perspective. I certainly cannot recommend *Adolescent medicine* as a source of useful information on issues such as the detection of early hypertension or the merits of scoliosis screening, or as a reference source for disorders usually managed outside the paediatric department. Those with a more than passing interest in adolescents may benefit from reading this book if only to assess the scope of the responsibilities they face.

**D I JOHNSTON**


This is a basic textbook concentrating on practical aspects of fluid therapy. Divided into 2 sections, it explains in almost excessively simple steps the theoretical structure around which the subsequent section on therapy is based. This part discusses, principally, the fluid and electrolyte requirements in the treatment of dehydration. It is well illustrated throughout with well worked examples of everyday problems.


It is uncommon to find that a multiauthor text reporting conference proceedings is as readable as this book. Aspects of teratogenesis of importance to all who care for pregnant women and the newborn are presented with a welcome breath of realism and common sense. Directed towards practising clinicians the book covers all aspects of drug treatment in pregnancy and each chapter has a comprehensive reference list. This is an informative and practical book that may be highly recommended.


A comprehensive book from more than 100 North American contributors. The first half deals with susceptibility and resistance to infection, and the clinical presentations classified according to different systems eg gastrointestinal, urinary tract etc. The second half deals systematically with different groups of infecting agents ranging from the bacterial and viral to parasites and fungi.


The orthopaedic advice is excellent, and in addition there is advice, often lacking in orthopaedic text books, about ‘good human relations’ and the importance of spending time explaining to parents and children what is going to happen and trying to make sure that the advice they are given is understood. This book should be in every accident and emergency department that deals with children.


A basic but comprehensive work from an author with considerable understanding of children and families. The range of normal and deviant behaviour is sympathetically discussed and well illustrated with case histories. There are revised sections on infants and adolescents and the new multiaxial classification of disorders is explained. The text is enjoyable, easy to read, and very well referenced: an excellent book for both introduction and continued usage.

**Shorter notices**


There is little new in this book which is none the less a useful description of an approach to treatment of clefts based on that of McNeil and Burston. The presurgical treatment is described in considerable detail; subsequent orthodontic care in less detail; and there are brief sections on aetiology, epidemiology, embryology, craniofacial growth, and surgical management. The text is well illustrated and easily read. The book will be of especial interest to orthodontists training for hospital practice.