

The cardiac surgeon or paediatric cardiologist who is selective in the chapters he reads will obtain a helpful review of current approaches to some of the more controversial topics in the management of congenital heart disease.

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**Cardiac Problems of the Adolescent and Young Adult.** Edited by D G Julian and N K Wenger. Pp 282: £45.00 hardback. Butterworths, 1985.

This book aims to review the cardiac

problems of children and young adults. Its 12 chapters discuss a variety of subjects ranging from the normal ambulatory electrocardiogram and the clearance of the young adult for strenuous physical exercise to topics such as myopericarditis and hypertension. The book on the whole has a wide scope; though several of the chapters inevitably relate to an age range of children which do not come to the attention of most British paediatricians. Celia Oakley's chapter on infective endocarditis is an excellent review of the topic and I found the two chapters on 'cured' congenital heart disease and uncured congenital heart disease

of particular interest giving detailed information on management and prognosis.

The book does suffer, however, from the usual problems of multi-authorship, with variation in the quality of individual chapters and some repetition and conflicting comments. The cover says that this book is 'Essential reading for cardiologists and paediatricians' but unfortunately I did not find it lived up to this claim. At £45 it is unlikely to find its way onto many paediatricians' bookshelves, though it should have a place on the shelves of good libraries.

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