each dysplasia and helpful cross references in the index—for example, on bow legs, cone shaped vertebral bodies, or short metacarpals. The clinical photographs, growth charts, and comparison of x-rays of—for example—hands or pelvis at similar and differing ages in different patients emphasise the astonishing variety in each dysplasia.

All who are puzzled by problems of failure to grow or short stature will be grateful to the authors for sharing their long and profound experience with those of us who see but a few patients. Their Mrs Beeton of bone dysplasia will amplify the standard references—Spranger, Langer, and Weidman’s Bone Dysplasias and Smith’s Recognisable Patterns in Human Malformation.

Alas, there is a problem. Some of the illustrations do not show what their captions declare, particularly the infant’s skulls and lateral spines; perhaps these can be improved in the next edition. It is a pity too that there are no captions beneath the introductory normal x-rays. Why no mention of idiopathic bow legs under metaphyseal dysplasia? Do the authors still advise babygrams? It would have been helpful to have a list of conditions diagnosable at birth.

But one likes a friend better for having faults one can talk about; I can enthusiastically welcome this book and recommend it to all paediatricians. A Mrs Beeton with four eggs, a rich diet indeed but digestible.

SIDNEY SMITH


One of the initial troubles with ultrasound examinations is the difficulty in endeavouring to relate the images produced to anatomy and pathology. Most find a period of apprenticeship the easiest way to overcome this problem. The applications of ultrasound to that eminently suitable subject, the young child, continue to increase. This timely publication allows one to share the experience of pioneers of sonographic examination of infants’ hip joints.

The book is essentially a profusely illustrated atlas of the normal and abnormal appearances of the hip joint, with clearly annotated anatomical details. Introductory chapters provide photographic illustration of the correct positioning and scanning techniques, with sections on instrumentation, adjustment, and documentation. The first half of the book is essentially descriptive, in which the spectrum of acetabular dysplasia and hip dislocation is well presented. The second half of the book is mostly concerned with the quantitative evaluation of hip sonograms, with associated angular measurements, which Dr Graf in particular has developed.

Not all ultrasonographers would feel inclined to use this technique or abide by the classifications, but the qualitative value of the illustrations in these sections remains useful and informative, and as a practical atlas the work can be commended.

D G SHAW

Correction


Throughout this paper, for the term ‘common null cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia’ please read ‘common acute lymphoblastic leukaemia’.

This error occurs only in the context of this paper.