

# British Journal of Venereal Diseases

Edited for the Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases

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departments. Treatment includes the doctor understanding her own as well as the patient's feelings, and conveying this appropriately to the patient. Supervision seminars in groups explore these feelings.

The book is attractively set out, easy to read, and has a wealth of interesting case histories, although there are a number of annoying printing errors. It has three main sections, entitled training and technique, findings with patients (with various psychosexual complaints), and other settings (mostly family planning or obstetrics and gynaecology). The appendix is rather untidy, with a hotch potch of subjects. In

the main, forms of treatment other than interpretive ones are neglected, although they are sanctioned in some sections of the book. Physical examination of impotent men is usually regarded as mandatory, but is consciously not performed by one author. On the positive side doctors in STD practice would do well to understand more about our own and our patients' feelings, and the book gives us a taste of this. There is a telling account of how a venereologist was frightened into inappropriately treating a rape victim with oxytetracycline. The patient was told there was 'pus on the cervix'. Exploration of the doctor's and

patient's feelings would have been more appropriate.

In summary, this book is a well presented account of the work of the IPM. That society's approach to sexual problems is in my opinion, however, not nearly eclectic enough. A venereologist considering undertaking sex therapy would be advised to read this book but also to learn about other treatment methods. With that proviso, I recommend that the book finds a place in every STD clinic library.

*D Goldmeir*

## Notices

### Symposium on skin and the nervous system

The third symposium on skin and the nervous system, entitled "New methods and advances in the study of skin innervation," is to be held from 24 to 29 March 1984 in Vienna, Austria. For further information, please contact: Professor W Gebhart Department II, University of Vienna, Vienna Medical Academy for Postgraduate Education, Alser Strasse 4, A-1090 Vienna, Austria (tel: (0222) 42 13 83).

### Society for Cutaneous Ultrastructure Research

The 11th Annual Meeting of the SCUR will be held at Helsinki University, Finland, from June 17 to 20, 1984. Dermatologists, pathologists, and other interested scientific workers are invited to participate. For details and registration forms please write to: Dr Kirsti Maria Niemi, Secretary of the Organising Committee, Department of Dermatology, Helsinki University Hospital, Snellmaninkatu 14, Helsinki 17, Finland.

### Infections of the Genital Tract

The Royal College of Pathologists is arranging a half day (2.00 to 6.00 pm) symposium on infections of the genital tract on Tuesday 17 April 1984 in London. The symposium is open to members of the college, trainee pathologists, and workers in disciplines associated with the subject.

For further information please contact: Christine Peddle, Scientific Meetings Secretary, The Royal College of Pathologists, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AF (tel: 01-930 5861).

### International Conjoint STD Meeting—Preliminary announcement

to be held on 17-21 June 1984 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada

32nd General Assembly of the International Union against Venereal Diseases and Treponematosis in association with the:  
American Venereal Diseases Association,  
STD Division of Canadian Public Health Association,  
Association of Medical Microbiologists of Canada,  
Canadian Infectious Diseases Society,  
Canadian Society for Tropical Medicine and International Health, and  
L'Association des Medecins Microbiologistes de la Province de Quebec.

*Information, registration forms, and abstracts forms obtainable from:*

International Conjoint STD Meeting,  
c/o Dr Richard Morisset,  
739 Dunlop Street, Montreal,  
Quebec, Canada H2V 2W5  
(Tel: 514-737-9721)

pathogenesis, biology, diagnosis, management (treatment, follow up, prevention) of STD caused by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Treponema pallidum*, *Chlamydia trachomatis*, genital mycoplasmas, fungal and parasitic agents, viruses (including HSV, CMV, papilloma, hepatitis, etc), and enteric pathogens. Other subjects will include genital ulcers, STD in women (including vaginitis, urethral syndromes, STD in pregnancy, PID, and sterility), neoplasia and STD, STD in developing countries, and AIDS.

*Abstracts to arrive by 15 February 1984 from delegates wishing to present papers. They should be typed on official forms in French or English. Papers accepted for verbal (12 minutes) or poster presentation will be printed and distributed at the start of the meeting.*

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(Tel: 514-737-9721)

*Programme will include the epidemiology, community health and social impact,*

Registration fees: CAN \$200.00, for spouse and family member \$75.00.

After 1 May 1984 \$250.00 for all.

*Accommodation booked direct with:*

Queen Elizabeth Hotel,  
900 West, Dorchester Boulevard,  
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B 4A5  
(Tel: 514-861-3511).

*Special flight fares from:*

Always Travel,  
c/o Norma Rohr,  
1260 University, Suite 403,  
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B 3J8  
(Tel: 514-861-8295 or 861-2651).