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## Buchbesprechungen

H. Klinkmann, L.C. Smeby (eds.) **Terminal Renal Failure: Therapeutic Problems, Possibilities, and Potentials.** International Symposium on Therapy of Renal Failure: Past, Present, and Future, Lund/Malmö, June 1989. (Contributions to Nephrology, Vol. 78) Karger, Basel 1990. VIII, 252 pages, 94 figures, 30 tables, Hard cover, SFr. 218, –/DM 261, –/£ 94.80/US \$ 161.50. US \$ price for USA, £ price for UK only (subject to change)

This volume contains the proceedings of an international symposium which are dealing with modern pathophysiological and therapeutic aspects of chronic renal failure (CRF). It seems to be worthwhile to refer to some special topics: Correction of CRF-associated anemia by the administration of recombinant erythropoietin, for instance, is followed by improvement of most of the symptoms originally attributed to uremia so that the question arises what the clinical syndrome "uremia" really means. – The secondary hyperparathyroidism in CRF is the consequence of an altered set-point for calcium-regulated parathormone secretion due to phosphate retention and low vitamin D<sub>3</sub> level. It can be treated by phosphate restriction and/or 1,25 (OH)<sub>2</sub>D<sub>3</sub> or its normocalcemic analogs, respectively. – Dialysis-related local and systemic amyloidosis is characterized by high levels of  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin as precursor protein and might probably be due to the use of cuprophan membranes. For prevention, membranes with larger pore size or filtration hemodialysis are recommended. Newer aspects include the use of adsorbents which interact with  $\beta_2$ -microglobulin. – A promising approach to prevent diabetic complications of the renal vasculature seems to be the concept of the "bioartificial pancreas", i.e. the implantation of islet cells. But this remains still a concept.

These and other topics are the highlights of the newer aspects concerning CRF. Also other already known problems, e.g. the influence of high blood pressure on glomerular damage, or the routinely prevention of renal disease in diabetes, or the important question of protein metabolism are discussed. A further chapter concerning technical problems deals primarily with newer developments of membranes for hemodialysis and of selective and specific adsorbents for blood purification. – Cardiovascular involvement including changes in extracellular fluid volume are discussed in several special chapters. – Finally, statements are given on the present states of treatment of terminal

renal failure in the different countries. – Of special interest are the introductory remarks on the history of dialysis, given by the editor H. Klinkmann, Rostock, as a homage to Nils Alwall. – Altogether, the volume gives a good insight into today's knowledge of terminal renal failure. F. Krück (Bonn)

D.K. Hossfeld, C.D. Sherman, R.R. Love, F.X. Bosch (eds.) **Manual of Clinical Oncology.** 5th edition, (UICC International Union Against Cancer) Springer, Berlin Heidelberg New York London Paris Tokyo Hong Kong Barcelona 1990. XIV, 391 pages, 88 figures, 69 tables, Soft cover DM 56, –.

The UICC Manual of Clinical Oncology has just appeared in its 5th fully revised edition. Each chapter of this multiauthored book is now written by a single author. The first part of the book focuses on scientific concepts and principles of cancer biology as well as on general problems of cancer diagnostics and treatment. The second part contains a description of single cancer types with emphasis on the more common ones.

Part one gives a short review of the molecular biological techniques applied in modern oncology. Part one includes furthermore mechanisms of carcinogenesis, natural history of cancer, epidemiology, etiology, prevention, screening, early detection, clinical staging, and principles of management including all options of treatment proceedings. Part two deals with the clinical aspects of the majority of malignant tumors of various organs. Each of these 20 chapters reviews the epidemiologic, etiologic and pathologic data collected on one particular type of tumor and the specific problems it may offer to diagnosis and treatment. The authors diligently focus on the more frequent cancer types and carefully avoid overemphasizing changing and controversial therapeutic regimens.

In summary the book gives an excellent synopsis of all present day problems of clinical oncology. It is concisely and clearly written and contains many clear tables and figures. It also contains a list of references and further suggested reading at the end of each chapter. Because of its pocket size the book enables quick orientation in everyday clinical situations. It should be particularly useful for medical students and practitioners, rather more for the general physician and rather less for the oncological specialist. A German translation would greatly benefit the spreading of this highly recommendable manual in German-speaking countries. E. Lengfelder (Mannheim)