PRESSURE SORES

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Preface

The contents of this book are based on a symposium held at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. Pressure sores have become a subject of growing interest to clinicians, nurses, therapists and bioengineers, and the editors believed that a symposium which brought together representatives of these disciplines would be both useful and timely.

The papers in this book are of two types. There are reviews which present an evaluation of the current state of knowledge on the identification of patients at special risk of developing sores, on pressure sore prevention in these patients, on the prevalence of sores and on techniques used in investigation and research. There are also research papers of new work in progress. The subject of the symposium was primarily prevention, and the reader will find no details on treatment, other than surgical; this omission reflects the present state of uncertainty and disagreement on the usefulness of the lotions and potions used in the treatment of sores. Some of this disagreement is also apparent in the discussion, in the book, of the usefulness and dangers of massaging the tissue.

The symposium was arranged by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and made possible by the financial assistance of:

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