Finally, the pictures warrant comment since an excellent book on histopathology without excellent pictures is a contradiction in terms. In an ideal world all microscopic pictures would be in color. In this world, all the pictures in this volume are black and white. However, the pictures have clearly been well selected for their quality, which is quite good, and they more than adequately complement the text. In fact, they should satisfy all realists, and quite a few idealists, too.

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Cellular and Molecular Biology of Neoplasia. Edited by Tak W. Mak and Ian Tannock. New York, Alan R. Liss, 1984. 214 pp. $58.00.

Although we have a number of model systems for studying the causation of cancer, the factors which lead to human malignancy are not clear. As one paper in this volume explains, "the pathogenesis of neoplastic transformation is an intriguing subject, long on phenomenological detail, but short on mechanistic understanding" (Paterson et al., p. 45). Epidemiological investigations have shown that certain tumors seem to occur in familial clusters, suggesting that inherited traits may cause tumor susceptibility. Studies of well-defined large pedigrees have implicated genetic factors in breast, colon, and prostate cancer among others.

Unquestionably, environmental factors influence the incidence of malignancy as well. For instance, the presence of aflatoxins in the diet has been associated with the development of hepatic tumors. The elucidation of these associations gives hope that many cases of cancer may in fact be avoidable.

Whether a tumor is caused by a genetic factor or an environmental factor, or, more likely, a combination of the two, the ultimate insult must be at the cellular level. Investigations of the cancer cell have concentrated on the nucleus, where alterations in DNA repair and metabolism, malformations of chromosomes, and mutations in the DNA sequence have all been implicated. Furthermore, any change in DNA must be manifested at the protein level before the malignant phenotype is evident. Thus, alterations in nucleotide binding proteins, tyrosine kinases, and other critical enzymes have all come under scrutiny.

Cancer research is so fascinating, aside from its potential benefits to humankind, because it encompasses such a wide range of investigations: from molecules to populations. All of this is in the hope of better understanding the fundamental properties of growth and differentiation. The proceedings of a symposium on the cellular and molecular biology of neoplasia held in the fall of 1983 were published as a supplement of the Journal of Cellular Physiology. The present volume is a handsomely prepared bound version of that collection.

The 21 papers which comprise the book cover all of the above-mentioned topics and more. That this book covers so much breadth with little depth is an advantage rather than a shortcoming. Individual papers rapidly become eclipsed by new studies; the present collection, however, by virtue of the diverse areas it presents, seems to remind one of the fascination of this field. Cancer research has become too broad for a scientist to keep track of current findings in all areas. This volume provides an excellent panorama of current work, not as an encyclopedic review, but rather as a brief survey of the numerous approaches being used to understand the workings of the cell.
Researchers in tumor biology will find this book full of novel approaches which will undoubtedly inspire new insights. Those outside the field will certainly appreciate why the study of neoplasia remains one of the most exciting topics in contemporary science.

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FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE: THE DOCTOR'S GUIDE. By Stuart Wesley Young and Royal J. Bartram, Jr. New York, Raven Press, 1984. 212 pp. $20.00.

We have all undoubtedly heard the story about some unfortunate doctor who, acting on a "hot tip," invested a sizeable sum of money in a disastrous adventure. And no wonder—with little or no training in the world of money investment and management, the physician often takes locker-room gossip as sagacious advice. Fortunately for the physician population, Drs. Young and Bartram have written Financial Independence: The Doctor's Guide to make those financial horror stories less common. This book is written in a simple and comprehensible style, taking nothing for granted. For example, a glossary of commonly used terms is included at the end, as are a few appendices related to the principles of compound interest and annuities. One could easily classify this as an elementary "how-to" book in making money.

Though aimed at physicians, this book in reality can help anyone with a little time and money. Physician or not, planning a financial program for the novice is a tough task, and this text makes it easier.

The amateur in investment should take the authors' advice with caution, however. It is easy to accept the statements made in the text as the absolute truth and act accordingly. Of course, most people, including this reviewer, would like to be given a nice, simple story, without too many clauses and exceptions. All that would be needed would be for us to pick up our checkbooks, invest our cash in the prescribed areas, and come back a year later to find a 30 percent profit. Doctors, with their always-too-busy lifestyles, are especially vulnerable to anybody who lays out an investment scheme that looks simple, safe, and easy. While Drs. Young and Bartram do not go so far as to tell the reader what the ideal financial package is, a lot of their opinions come uncomfortably close to sounding like indisputable truths. There are two definite problems with this. First, there are very few absolute "rights" and "wrongs" in the financial world. If there were, everybody would make a profit, and no one would lose! Thus, what some men, including the authors, believe to be the correct approach to investment may not be what other men believe. Second, the area of money management and investment is extremely volatile. Old businesses are constantly folding and new ones always replace them. Concomitantly, the trends of investment are continually changing, and what may be a sound move today may be financially hazardous tomorrow. So when the authors conclude the text with their own predictions and advice about investing money during the coming decade, the reader must be aware that these opinions are just that—opinions, and these may change drastically as the winds buffeting the financial world change directions.

In Financial Independence: The Doctor's Guide, the authors stress that the best investment program is one that is drawn up and executed by the investor himself, since no one else is likely to be as caring and interested in the financial welfare of the