Many of the chapters dealing with humans are somewhat technical and of interest only to those involved in applying these techniques to patient care. Yet, the chapter by A. Thebault et al. on the effects of clomiphene and HCG on ovulation as well as the chapter by L. Mettler et al. on human in vitro fertilization are extremely informative and demonstrate the marriage of basic and clinical science, amply illustrated in a nascent field.

The final portion of this monograph on embryo transfer is the most interesting in that it deals with the future potential of the field—the most perplexing involving embryo transplant and implantation This section deals at length with freezing of gametes and embryos as well as open uterine procedures and transcervical procedures. The material is mainly based on animal data but the reader does not have to stretch his imagination far to see how this will have tremendous application to humans.

This is a well-rounded, complete text of interest to all, but especially to those actively involved in this important and growing field.

ALAN DECHERNEY
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Yale University School of Medicine

FEMALE INCONTINENCE. Edited by Norman R. Zinner and Arthur M. Sterling. New York, Alan R. Liss, Inc., 1982. 413 pp. $64.00.

This 400-plus-page volume is a record of a joint meeting of the International Continence Society and the Urodynamics Society in Los Angeles in 1980. The book is divided into sections including an overview of pathophysiology, diagnosis, urodynamic evaluation, clinical trials, and treatment. Papers presented by authors from an international society are mixed with those of American workers. Virtually every viewpoint and every camp is represented, together with some of the discussion which followed each paper.

Anyone with an interest in lower urinary tract function will find the book useful, and those in the field will find it invaluable. There are, in these papers, good and bad ideas, treatment suggestions, findings in large clinical series, good and bad results, and some fierce argument. This is fertile ground and the book is a kind of zenith of the state of the art.

EDWARD J. MCGUIRE
Section of Urology
Yale University School of Medicine

THE ROLE OF PEPTIDES AND AMINO ACIDS AS NEUROTRANSMITTERS. Edited by J. Barry Lomardini and Alexander D. Kenny. New York, Alan R. Liss, 1981. 230 pp. $36.00.

This book is the report of a symposium held in Lubbock, Texas, in 1980. There were many contributors from diverse disciplines, including neurochemistry, neurophysiology, biochemistry, psychiatry, psychology, and pharmacology. The volume contains a number of interesting chapters that relate to the biochemistry and physiology of various neurotransmitters. Of particular interest are the chapters on GABA receptors with much review information and many recent references. The section on opioid peptides and receptors and the one on the role of thyroid releasing hormone on the central nervous system are also interesting and well done. The
chapter on the effect of morphine on globus pallidus and caudate nucleus contains much information in animal models and some original data; however, the chapter on taurine contains few references later than 1978. A few other things impress the reader in a rather negative way. There are some typographical errors that might be cleared up, as well as a somewhat annoying use of non-standard abbreviations requiring the reader to refer frequently to the key in order to understand the material.

Most of the information discussed is available in other reviews of specific topics. The usefulness of this volume lies in the amount of diverse information that is collected in one place. This book will be of interest and value to neurochemists and neurophysiologists as well as to neurologists, particularly those interested in the biochemistry of the nervous system.

Margretta R. Seashore

Departments of Human Genetics and Pediatrics
Yale University School of Medicine

Morphogenesis and Malformation of the Skin. Edited by Richard J. Blandau. New York, Alan R. Liss, Inc., 1981. 271 pp. $44.00.

This publication is the product of the Sixth International Workshop on Morphogenesis and Malformation, held in September of 1980. The contributors are geneticists, dermatologists, dysmorphologists, immunologists, and pathologists from various parts of the U.S. and Canada. This is not a textbook or a didactic presentation of abnormal skin morphology but is rather a compilation of several different papers on a variety of topics. These range from rather general commentary on the function of skin through papers on embryologic development of the skin, differentiation of epidermal structures. It also includes papers on cutaneous manifestations of a number of genetic diseases such as neurofibromatosis, immunologic diseases, syndromes with increased DNA breakage, and some lysosomal storage diseases. In addition, there are chapters discussing the presentation of genetic diseases that involve chiefly the skin, such as congenital ichthyosis and epidermolysis bullosa. The paper on prenatal diagnosis of inherited skin diseases contains much new information and could not even have been written a few years ago. Most of the other papers are in the nature of review. There is little in the way of original data; however, a number of the chapters contain a compilation of information very interesting and helpful to the general geneticist and to the dermatologist interested in genetic diseases. In the chapter on ultrastructural aspects of human skin, there are some nicely reproduced electronmicrographs illustrating normal and abnormal skin structure. The chapter by Carter on heritable DNA instability contains some helpful tables for individuals not familiar with the literature, and several chapters contain pictures of affected patients which are illustrative and useful.

There is a chapter on mucopolysaccharidoses and mucolipidoses by Shapiro which is well written and interesting, but its focus does not seem to be particularly dermatologic, and one is curious about its inclusion in this book; however, because it is interesting and well written the clinical geneticist will appreciate it anyway. The chapter on premature aging syndromes which affect the skin is a nice review of the disorders in the category of Cockayne syndrome, Werner's syndrome, and progeria; although short, it has a fairly comprehensive review of the literature of these diseases.

All in all, this book will be of interest and value to the clinical geneticist and to the dermatologist interested in skin manifestations of genetic disease. It will probably