general, clear and concise, and there is little overlap. The extensive citations provided make this volume a good reference tool as well. The book should be of interest to individuals concerned with animal viruses, veterinary medicine, and public health.

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**LASER APPLICATION TO OCCLUSIVE VASCULAR DISEASE.** Edited by Michael W. Berns and Mahmood Mirhoseini. New York, Alan R. Liss, Inc., 1985. 344 pp. $28.00.

Laser applications have been increasingly successful in many fields of medicine and may soon occupy an important position in medical therapeutics. In ophthalmology, where the unique non-scattering optical properties of the eye allow for tight focusing of laser light, the conditions of retinal detachment, retinal bleeding, and diabetic neovascularization are routinely treated with lasers. Nevertheless, laser applications to the fields of cardiovascular and peripheral vascular surgery have been minimal. Yet, with increasing technologic advances in percutaneous catheterization, fiber optics, and laser light sources, the potential for laser treatment of occlusive vascular disease is growing.

The papers contained within this hardbound book are reprinted from *Lasers in Surgery and Medicine*, Volume 5, Number 3, 1985. They are largely papers presented at the fourth annual meeting of the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery, at Salt Lake City, Utah, in June 1985. These well edited, sound scientific publications are thoroughly referenced. The editors have clearly spared no expense in reproducing the fine color figures presented in the text. The following topics are presented: overviews of the technical considerations for laser vascular recanalization, laser-tissue interactions, laser open endarterectomy, embolization and vessel wall perforation, patency results, and experimental models for angioscopic endarterectomy.

These articles provide a relatively thorough overview of the area of laser applications to occlusive vascular disease. For the cardiologist or the vascular surgeon with a casual interest in this field, the text is probably too detailed. However, for one with a serious interest in the field or one who is planning experimentation in laser-tissue interaction, this book would be helpful. Librarians should certainly add the volume to their collections if they do not already subscribe to the journal which is its source.

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**GOODMAN AND GILMAN'S THE PHARMACOLOGICAL BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS.** Edited by Alfred Goodman Gilman, Louis S. Goodman, Theodore W. Rall, and Ferid Murad. New York, Macmillan Publishing Company, 1985. 1,839 pp. $65.00.

This volume needs no introduction to most workers involved in any of the biomedical fields. For years “Goodman and Gilman” has stood as the pharmacology reference book for clinicians, researchers, and students alike. It has earned this reputation by being thorough and complete, yet understandable, with a uniformly lucid style. This seventh edition is no different.
Of note in this volume is the fact that it is dedicated to the memory of Alfred Gilman. He, along with Louis S. Goodman, wrote the first two editions of this text, and he served as an editor until his death in 1984. He will be missed by all those who knew him.

Despite Dr. Gilman's untimely death and the addition of two new editors, Theodore W. Rall and Ferid Murad, the book remains unchanged in its format of presentation. As always, it emphasizes basic pharmacological principles and how these apply to the therapeutic use of a given agent. Each existing section, however, has been updated and revised in order to keep abreast of the constant changes that occur in biomedical science; similarly, new chapters and sections have been added as a result of the growing number of new pharmacological agents available today. Of special note is a new section on the calcium channel blocking agents, a new chapter on hyperlipoproteinemias (written by Nobel laureates Michael Brown and Joseph Goldstein), and revised sections on endorphins, enkephalins, prostaglandins, and benzodiazepines.

Aside from the chapters that address the mechanism, pharmacological properties, pharmacokinetics, uses, and toxicities of specific agents, there are also chapters that consider general principles and other aspects of pharmacology. One of the introductory chapters on the principles of therapeutics is quite helpful in gaining an overall perspective, as is also the chapter on pharmacodynamics. The three appendices on prescription writing and patient compliance, design of dosage regimens, and drug interactions also prove to be well worthwhile.

As did the previous editions, this work, because of its readable style and comprehensive coverage, will undoubtedly become an indispensable addition to the library of most researchers and clinicians. While I maintain that this book is too exhaustive for use as a primary text in a medical school pharmacology course, it is most definitely a valuable reference resource for the student, as well.

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Intensive Therapy. By Gillian C. Hanson, H.E.R. Chew, and C.S. Waldmann. St. Louis, MO, Mosby/Time's Mirror, 1984. 261 pp. No price. Paperbound.

Intensive Therapy is a pocket guide to concise management of medical emergencies. It is organized to be a quick reference source for the clinician in the intensive care unit or in the emergency room.

The book is divided into four chapters. The first is a general introduction to the concept of an "ITU" (Intensive Therapy Unit in England) and deals primarily with drug therapy. Included in this chapter is useful information on drug interactions and on therapeutic and toxic levels of drugs commonly used in the acute setting. The second chapter is devoted to organ failure, discussing cardiac, respiratory, renal, and hepatic failure. The etiology and management of shock is discussed in chapter three, and the fourth and final chapter addresses "Specific Problems"—changes in body temperature, acute metabolic disorders, endocrine crises, acute disorders of the nervous system, gastrointestinal emergencies, and poisoning. At the end of the book, there is a list of normal laboratory values, hemodynamic indices, and respiratory indices.

Each chapter begins with an initial brief discussion of the diagnosis and management of the particular disorder. The balance of each chapter is devoted to tables, which