MP
MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY

Notes to Contributors

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General

- Authors must submit three copies of the original manuscript typed in double line space. Revised manuscripts should be submitted as printed copy and on disk. A guide to submitting an article on disk will be sent when requesting a revision or on notification of an acceptance. Authors should not submit the original paper on disk.
- The names of the authors, with initials or one forename, should be followed by the name of the institution where the work was carried out. An indication of the position held by each author should be given in an accompanying letter to the Editors, and manuscripts should bear the name of one author to whom correspondence should be addressed. If available, a fax number and an e-mail address should be supplied.
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- The number of authors should be kept to a minimum and should include only those who have made a contribution to the research: justification should be made for more than five authors. Acknowledgments should be limited to workers whose courtesy or assistance has extended beyond their paid work, and to supporting organisations.
- Authors should provide up to four keywords/phrases for the index.
- All measurements must be in SI units apart from blood pressure measurements, which should be in mmHg, and drugs in metric units.
- Abbreviations should be used rarely and should be preceded by the words in full before the first appearance.
- In the statistical analysis of data 95% confidence intervals should be used where appropriate.
- No free offprints will be provided; reprints may be ordered when the proof is returned.

Original articles

- Papers should report original research of relevance to the understanding and practice of molecular pathology. They should be written in the standard form: abstract; introduction; methods; and discussion.
- The journal uses a structured form of abstract in the interests of clarity. This should be short (no more than 250 words) and include four headings: *Aims*—the main purpose of the study; *Methods*—what was done, and with what material; *Results*—the most important results illustrated by numerical data but not p values; and *Conclusions*—the implications and relevance of the results.

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- Leaders and Editorials are published by editorial invitation.

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- Single case reports of outstanding interest or clinical relevance, short technical notes, and brief investigative studies are welcomed and usually published in the form of a Short Technical report.
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- Letters must be typed in double line spacing, should normally be no more than 500 words, have no more than five references, and must be signed by all authors. Two copies should be provided.

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Tables should be presented separately in double line spacing without ruled lines; when presented on disk they should be in a separate file from the text.

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References

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Cover illustration: Visualisation of immunoglobulin genes by fluorescence in situ hybridisation in phytohaemagglutinin stimulated lymphocytes. Triple labelling of metaphase chromosomes with DAPI (blue), a painting library for chromosome 22 (red) and a plasmid C*λ* probe (green). (See: Carvalho *et al.* In situ visualisation of immunoglobulin genes in normal and malignant lymphoid cells. *J Clin Pathol: Mol Pathol* 1995;**48**:M158–64.)

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Edition of the Journal of Clinical Pathology

Book reviews

Immunoglobulin gene expression in development and disease. Casali P, Siberstein LE, eds. (Pp 600; £144.50.) New York Academy of Sciences. 1997.

In the tradition of the series this volume provides a comprehensive review of activity at the forefront of its subject—as reported at the meeting held in September 1996. It is comprised of 90 multi-authored papers organised into nine parts covering 600 pages. It will be apparent that the meeting itself will have been an invaluable forum for interactions between investigators, however, it is a little more difficult to define the audience for the published proceedings. The individual reports are of detailed studies in relatively narrowly defined systems in an exciting and rapidly developing field. Undoubtedly, the participants will have moved on, substantially, from the position reported here and will have communicated new finding at other specialist meetings and, to some extent, in other publications. This volume will not, therefore, recommend itself to practitioners established in the field but would be invaluable to postgraduates or post-doc's contemplating entering it in the future, and academics providing advanced level courses.

Unfortunately, libraries are operating in an environment of proliferating specialist publications and ever more stringent budgetary controls. At £144.50 I do not feel that this volume will have a sufficient shelf-life to justify recommending it for purchase at my institution.

R JEFFERIS

Molecular biology of multiple sclerosis. Russell WC, ed. (Hard back; £60.00.) Wiley. 1996. ISBN 0 4719 6966 4.

This is a welcome and timely addition to the literature on multiple sclerosis. The book devotes 16 chapters to the pathogenesis of multiple sclerosis and one chapter to therapy. This is a fair reflection of current knowledge on multiple sclerosis and a reminder that until we know the exact molecular mechanisms underlying disease precesses then it is very difficult to produce rational targeted therapy.

The book takes us on a journey from the basic pathological lesions through the molecular pathology of multiple sclerosis. It pays particular attention to the molecular biology of the various cell types that have been implicated in the molecular lesions and includes the role of immunological mechanisms and viruses. The book does not intend to be comprehensive, but each chapter provides a bibliography that will prove invaluable to readers who wish to pursue the subject in more depth. Perhaps a weakness of the book is one common to multi-author volumes. Namely, it reads like a collection of individual chapters rather than a complete story. There is, therefore, some element of repetition, but this format does allow the interested reader to dip into various chapters without having to read the entire book. Overall I found the book authoritative and stimulating.

E W HILLHOUSE

A laboratory guide to biotin labelling in biomolecule analysis. Meir T, Fahrenholz F, eds. (sFr 98; DM 118.) Birkhauser. ISBN 3 7643 5206 X.

This book describes almost everything about the use of biotin as a label for the analysis of biomolecules. As the title suggests, it is very muck a laboratory "cookery book", explaining by example how to incorporate biotin into vitually every class of biological compound. It is, however, not limited to recipes alone but gives considerable details of the biochemistry of the processes involved. However, I would have liked to have seen something on the chemical synthesis of biotinylated peptides and oligonucleotides. These are a very useful source of ligands, especially any analogues of natural compounds and can enable biotin to be introduced in particularly useful and convenient positions.

The book is well laid out, with all the practical protocols on a pale grey background, which makes them easier to locate in the text. With the exception of the very first table, which is far too small, the figures and tables are clear and well presented. The troubleshooting section at the end of each chapter is a useful feature as are references to reagent lifetimes. The book is ideal for the laboratory considering using the power and selectivity of the biotin-avidin-streptavidin systems for the detection or recovery of biomolecules. If the required application is not mentioned in the book, there should be enough information to enable the design of a custom procedure to do the job.

J E FOX

Correction

HHV8 and Kaposi's sarcoma: a time cohort study. M M Kennedy, S B Lucas, R R Jones, D D Howells, S J Picton, E E Hanks, J O'D McGee, J J O'Leary. J Clin Pathol *1997;50:96–100).*

The outer primer sequence of ORF 25 should have read:

5'–AGGCAACGTCAGATGTGAC–3'
5'–GAAATTACCCACGAGATCGC–3'

and not as published.

This follows an erratum published in the *Lancet* 1996;**347**:338–9. The data presented remain unchanged.

Notices

The myeloproliferative disorders

Pathogenesis and clinical management

Wednesday 2 July 1997
Royal College of Pathologists, London, UK

A one day symposium organised by the Royal College of Pathologists and the UK Myeloproliferative Disorders Study Group. The symposium is open to members of the college, trainee pathologists, and workers in other disciplines with an interest in the subject.

Fees: fellows/members £75; trainees/retired £45; non-members £100.

For further information and an application form contact the Scientific Meetings Officer, RCPath, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AF, UK. (Tel: 0171 930 5862 ext 24/25.)

Second meeting of the European Study Group on Molecular Diagnostics

Wednesday 15 October 1997
Kurhaus Hotel, The Hague, Netherlands

Registration is free.

For further information contact Prof. Dr. M Altwegg, Department of Microbiology, University of Zurich, Gloriastrasse 30, CH-8028 Zürich, Switzerland. (Fax: +41 (1) 252 8107.)