Book Reviews

C. Kaplan-Gouet, Ch. Salmon Platelet Immunology
Current Studies in Hematology and
Blood Transfusion, vol. 55
Karger, Basel 1988
VIII + 188 pp.; SFr. 165.-/DM 198.-/$ 110.00
ISBN 3-8055-4693-9

This volume is a useful reference for many aspects of platelet immunology. Of special value are the sections on platelet membrane and alloimmune thrombocytopenia. The reviews on the biochemistry and immunology of the platelet membrane serve as a good updating for these subjects. The other three reports in the first section give a nice example for current studies in this field.

The section on autoimmune thrombocytopenias, although too concise, give good guidelines regarding the new therapy modalities and the management of ITP in pregnancy. Of particular value is the section on alloimmune thrombocytopenia. In this chapter new diagnostic techniques as well as new therapeutic modalities are extensively discussed and thus a more rational and sophisticated approach can be adopted by the reader. The last section gives an illustration for the usefulness of the immunology approach in the diagnosis (including prenatal diagnosis) and the evaluation of various platelet disorders. It is thus a useful textbook on platelet immunology which is of value for those who are involved in this field.

D. Varon

L. Schmid, H.-J. Senn (eds) AIDS-Related Neoplasias

The rapidly increasing number of patients with both human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection and neoplasms such as Ka-posi’s sarcoma and Hodgkin’s and non-Hodgkin’s lymphomas, prompted the Swiss group for Clinical Cancer Research to organize in June 1988 a workshop on this topic. The proceedings of the meeting include general reviews on the etiology of AIDS, immunological mechanisms in HIV infection and potential approaches to immunotherapy as well as specific chapters on Kaposi’s sarcoma and malignant lymphomas. The updated experience on AIDS-related malignant lymphoma is reported by several European groups and provides important information on this aspect of AIDS-related neoplasia. Chapters on the safety precautions required for the protection of health workers and the psychological issues for patients with AIDS-related cancers are also included.

The book is aimed to expose health officials and medical personnel dealing with AIDS and cancer patients to this growing worldwide challenging problem and is recommended to all interested in this area.

I. Ben-Bassat

R.M. Bertina
Protein C and Related Proteins

This is generally a well-written and well-conceived book dealing with a topic of current interest. The chapters on the biochemistry of protein C and the biochemistry of protein S present an excellent review of these topics. A short chapter dealing with vitamin 

dependent clotting factors in general would have been helpful for readers who are not familiar with this area. There is some overlap between the chapter on hereditary protein C deficiency and the chapter on homozygous protein C deficiency that should have been avoided.

S. Gitel


The Methods in Hematology series now spans 19 volumes covering topics from hematopoiesis to quality control. This latest addition to the series is an excellent compilation of techniques related to the red cell membrane. For the most part, Shohet and Mohandas have been very successful in obtaining objective presentations of the individual techniques discussed. The strongest chapter in this volume is that by Fairbanks et al., which describes in great detail the various aspects of SDS-poly-acrylamide gel electrophoresis of red cell membrane proteins. There are few questions left unanswered concerning this general technique and even the expert will pick up useful tips from the chapter. Another detailed and informative chapter is that by Agre and Bennett, although this deals with the considerably narrower topic of purification and functional assays for spectrin, ankyrin and band 3.

Lipid isolation and analysis are well addressed by Lubin et al. with particularly detailed protocols in addition to the appropriate original literature references. This chapter is especially useful for those investigators apprehensive over entering the area of lipid analysis since sufficient detail is given such that anyone familiar with general laboratory techniques can feel confident. Some highly technical areas related to lipid analysis such as phospholipid flip-flop measurements with electron spin resonance are treated in a cursory manner but that is to be expected within the space limitations of this monograph. Another aspect of lipid metabolism concerns the analysis of lipid peroxidation products and this is addressed by Chiu and Claster. However, the major limitation to this field has been and continues to be the lack of adequate analytical techniques. The standard, indirect measurements of lipid peroxidation, such as malondialdehyde and alkane quantitation, are predominantly reviews of the techniques rather than details presented; in addition, the more direct approaches such as hydroxide radical measurements by electron spin resonance are described all in cursory instructions not procedures are not easily distilled into step-by-step instructions nor though they are far beyond the routine capabilities of most labora-

![Image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

Book Reviews

Clark presents a good review of ion transport assays for red cell membranes with these techniques.
cells including detailed experimental protocols as well as the
In summary, the nineteenth
volume of Methods in Hematology
equally important qualifiers as to the limitations of each particular provides an excellent, broad
based reference source for most of the
 technique. Finally, the three chapters dealing with electron micros- biochemical techniques
related to the red cell membrane
copy of red cell skeletons and erythrocyte deformability are pre-
Erratum
The title of the paper by Orazi et al. (Contents on the cover of vol. 81, No. 3, 1989) should read:
‘A Case of Chronic Neutrophilic Leukemia with Trisomy 8’.

G.L. Dale