Book Review

A. Goldberg and M.R. Moore Clinics in Haematology
The Porphyrias, vol. 9, No. 2 Saunders, Eastbourne 1980 225 pp.; US $ 9 ISSN 0308-2261
This is a complete and excellent review, as are usually the papers published in Clinics in Haematology. The nine chapters are written by British, Danish, German and South-African authors, all of them specialists in this subject.

It is not possible to analyse a review, but useful to note the chapters which will be of interest to the reader: biochemistry of the porphyrins; clinical features, pathogenesis and management of acute hepatic porphyrias; cutaneous porphyrias; porphyria variegata; congenital porphyria. One chapter has been devoted to porphyrias in animals, another to drugs and porphyrias. G.H. Elder summarizes the methodologies used for diagnosis of porphyrin metabolism in diseases other than porphyria: lead and alcohol intoxication, sideroblastic anemias (unfortunately the porphyrin metabolism abnormalities in this last group of diseases are only discussed on one page).

Every chapter ends with a large bibliography.

Further, the index at the end of this book may be very useful. Y. Najean, Paris