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I believe the material in the volume presents a fair delineation of the state of the art as it pertains to current concepts in gastrophysiology and pathophysiology. The material also demonstrates that progress has been and is being made in understanding the pathophysiologic processes of the stomach. It is quite clear that our understanding of these disease processes is limited and this is reflected in the surgical and medical armamentarium for the treatment of gastric disorders. Diagnostic techniques have improved, but even greater refinements are needed, and even then only time will tell whether or not they can make a significant contribution to more effective treatment and longer survival of patients with diseases of the stomach.

I trust that this volume will be of interest to physicians, young and old, surgeons and non-surgeons.

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Editor in Chief