encephalitis immunoglobulin is given either before or within four days after the tick bite.[2] Immunoglobulin given after more than four days has been shown to delay the antibody response by means of feedback inhibition and worsens the clinical course, especially in children.[7] We cannot offer a definite explanation for the severe course of disease in our patient. It may be the unfortunate combination of a failure to react to the immunoglobulins and the development of a severe course of disease after a single exposure. It may also be possible that the patient was unknowingly exposed to additional tick bites days before the passive immunisation, thereby making it useless.

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NOTICE

Announcement from the British Neuropsychiatry Association: 1996 summer meeting

The 1996 Summer meeting will be held on 14–16 July at Robinson College, Cambridge. It will include topics on neurodevelopment, language, and the presentation of short scientific papers and single case videos by members. The Association's AGM will be held on 16 July.

For further details of these meetings please contact: Sue Garratt, Administrative Assistant, BNPA, 17 Clocktower Mews, London N1 7BB. Telephone/Fax: 0171 226 5949.

For details of membership of the BNPA, which is open to medical practitioners in psychiatry, neurology, and related clinical neurosciences, please contact: Dr Jonathan Bird, Secretary BNPA, Burden Neurological Hospital, Stoke Lane, Stapleton, Bristol, BS16 1QT. Telephone: 01179 701212 ext 2925/2929 or Sue Garratt at the address given above.

CORRECTION

Migraine *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry* 1996;**60**:338;1996;**60**:448. These two listed publications were inadvertently not attributed. They were written by Dr E M R Critchley, affiliation as given in the third in the series, this volume (1996;**60**:584).

BOOK REVIEWS

All titles reviewed here are available from the BMJ Bookshop, PO Box 295, London WC1H 9TE. Prices include postage in the United Kingdom and for members of the British Forces Overseas, but overseas customers should add £2 per item for postage and packing. Payment can be made by cheque in sterling drawn on a United Kingdom bank, or by credit card (Mastercard, Visa or American Express) stating card number, expiry date, and your full name.

Motor Neuron Disease. Biology and Management. Edited by PN LEIGH and M SWASH. (Pp 468). Published by Springer-Verlag, London 1995. ISBN 3-540-19685-4/0-387-19685-4.

"Inevitably the disease progresses, but one must never give in too quickly, neither the sufferer nor the helper, who must always be quick with encouragement since success breeds success" (p454). So writes the wife of a patient with motor neuron disease (MND) at the end of this book dedicated to his disease. A moving account that not only relays what the disease means at the personal level to both the patient and family but also serves as an encouragement to those involved in the research and management of this most feared of neurological diseases. This fear for many years reflected our ignorance, but MND is now currently yielding some of its secrets with the advent of modern molecular genetics and families of neurotrophic factors. This book therefore appears at an appropriate time.

This book primarily concentrates on the pathology, pathogenesis and treatment of MND, and covers the ground well, if somewhat repetitively at times—for example, inclusion body pathology is discussed in chapters 4, 5 and 7 at least! However, in a field that is currently moving at speed, the book can clearly be seen to be dated, irrespective of the obvious comments in the text (for example, p230 "Since this chapter was first submitted for publication in 1989, . . ."). It is therefore not surprising that some topics are already in need of revision including: discussion of the SMA gene; the role of glial cell-line derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF) in motor neuron survival; the results of clinical trials using neurotrophic factors in MND; the significance of anti-GM1 antibodies in MND and motor neuropathies and the future of riluzole therapy, to name but some recent developments.

The updating of chapters with some of this new information has been tackled by some authors, by the tagging on of relevant information. This sadly fails to work in the majority of cases as the overall discussion of the chapter does not necessarily fit naturally with the new points raised by recent research. A better approach to try and tackle this delay in conception of the book to publication may have been to include an epilogue detailing recent developments as well as providing an introduction outlining the developmental history of motor neurons and their organisation into central motor pathways. This latter topic is taken up in chapters 4 and 13, but an account earlier on would have put discussion in later chapters of the book into a clearer context. Furthermore chapter 13 on the somatic motor neurons and descending motor pathways (a 72 page chapter), seemed out of place in its discussion and attention to neuroanatomical detail in a book that has as its main topic a diffuse neurodegenerative process. Indeed, the individual biases of authors is always difficult to accommodate in multi author books, so, for example, in the chapter on theories of causation, Appel *et al* emphasise the evidence for an auto immune basis to MND. This in itself is not a bad thing but does rather detract from other possible pathogenic processes, and may unduly distort the field to the reader who simply reads this chapter in isolation.

Overall the book represents an impressive body of work relating to MND, but chapters on the cognitive deficits in this condition and the role of anti-GM1 antibodies in distinguishing MND and multifocal motor neuropathy with conduction block would have been welcome. However, the chapters are extremely well referenced, and issues are dealt with that are often skipped over by books of this type—for example, the chapters on the management of MND and the concluding chapter from the spouse of a patient with MND being notable examples. It is therefore a book which serves to summarise a complex and evolving field, and although that summary is somewhat dated it is not without relevance and importance to the neurologist's current management of this disease.

ROGER BARKER

Clinical Neurology. Third Edition. Edited by MICHAEL J AMINOFF, DAVID A GREENBERG and ROGER P SIMON. (Pp 344; $34.95). Published by Appleton & Lange, Connecticut 1995. ISBN 0-8385-1383-2.

This text book has 344 pages of fairly small print, which is well laid out and beautifully illustrated. It also contains a large amount of information in tabulated form. The material is set out in 12 chapters covering the common neurological syndromes and investigations.

This book is comprehensive in its approach. This may appeal to some of its intended readers . . . medical students, house officers and non-neurologist practitioners. For others, its detailed, all-embracing comprehensiveness may impede comprehension. In general this group of readers requires more help in the identification of common, important, day-to-day neurology, from the large mass of rarer conditions which are the responsibility of the neurological specialist. The textbook may attract young neurologists in the early stages of their training.

IAIN WILKINSON

workshop in Capri, in May 1993. As treatment of neurodegenerative diseases is still largely experimental, most of the topics relate to molecular mechanisms of degeneration; epidemiological background; animal models; clinical diagnosis; and the theoretical basis of potential pharmacological treatments. However, there are a small number of chapters describing clinical trials of pharmacological intervention, and a small number relating to other potential interventions, for example, one on neural transplantation and one on the potential uses of neurotrophins.

The fly cover summary claims that this book is a "comprehensive review of both the experimental and clinical advances in our understanding of Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, ischaemic brain damage and neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's disease". This seems an exaggerated claim, as this is in fact the proceedings of a meeting and is neither comprehensive nor a review. Indeed, it is a collection of chapters, each of which could stand as a separate paper or essay, with little binding them together and no conclusions or synthesis. There has been little attempt by the editors to organise this volume in a logical way and the presentation of the chapters has not been standardised: some are written as short scientific papers, others as reviews, and even abbreviations and style of referencing vary. All these factors make it rather difficult to access information. However, having said this, many of the items are useful at an individual level, particularly those relating to the molecular mechanisms of excitotoxicity, the uses of radical scavengers and glutamate receptor antagonists, and the molecular genetics of Alzheimer's disease. Overall, this volume provides one with feel about current thinking on the pharmacological aspects of this subject, but it is not a book I would expect to refer to frequently.

ANNE ROSSER

Therapy with Botulinum Toxin. Edited by JOSEPH JANKOVIC and MARK HALLETT. (Pp 656; price $195·00). Published by Marcel Dekker Inc, New York. 1994. ISBN 0-8247-8824-9.

Handbook of Botulinum Toxin Treatment. Edited by PETER MOORE. (Pp 289; price £59·50). Published by Blackwell Science, Oxford. 1995. ISBN 0-6320-3616-8.

In the past 10 years a large number of neurologists and ophthalmologists have gained a great deal of practical personal experience of the use of botulinum toxin in the treatment of various movement disorders. They have shared this knowledge at scientific meetings but until now there has been no comprehensive source for reference or manual for practice. Both of these books set out to redress this deficiency and they are both very welcome additions to the literature.

Both books give clinical descriptions of the conditions suitable for injection treatment and brief accounts of other methods of management. There are detailed accounts of injection techniques and doses the illustrations of the cervical muscle anatomy being rather clearer in the English book. Strabismus, blepharospasm, hemifacial spasm and cervical and laryngeal dystonia are covered comprehensively. Upper limb dystonia and spasticity are also well covered. More novel indications receive less space and some—cerebral palsy, therapeutic ptosis and oscillopsia—are better dealt with in the English volume while sphincter problems and facial wrinkles receive more in the American.

The American book is based on the Consensus Development Conference sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and Food and Drug Administration in 1990 but most of the chapters have been updated with references up to 1993. Like all multi-author books particularly in rapidly advancing fields there is some overlap and repetition and there are analyses of relatively small series of patients which characterise the introduction of any new therapeutic technique. The foreword is by Alan B Scott, the ophthalmologist who first used the toxin on a patient with strabismus in 1977 and contains an interesting personal historical perspective by Edward J Schantz, the toxicologist who first worked on the toxin in 1944 and was responsible for the early supplies to Scott.

The English volume is considerably smaller and shows more consistency of style indicating firmer editorial control. The section devoted to basic science and toxicology is much briefer although coming a year later it is able to give a clearer account of the sites of action of the different botulinum toxins. The appendix contains a useful list of resources and patient organisations.

One or other of these books is an essential companion for anyone starting an injection clinic or expanding his repertoire into the less common indications for this important and exciting addition to the neurological therapeutic armoury. Dr Moore's book will be in my clinic and probably open but I am pleased to be able to refer to the American volume when preparing lectures on the subject.

JOHN PILLING

Neural Control of Movement. Edited by WILLIAM R FERRELL and UWE PROSKE. (Pp 311). Published by Plenum Publishing, London, 1995. ISBN 0-306-45016-X.

I am not a fan of conference proceedings. Too many are collections of second hand manuscripts of already published work, or worse, badly written papers of dubious quality which would never pass for publication in a reputable Journal. This volume therefore came as a delightful surprise and I read it from cover to cover with fascination.

It is not, in spite of its title, a general source book on movement control. Only one article (but that a very good one) mentions the cerebral cortex, and none address topics such as modelling of the nervous control of three dimensional limb movements which is so popular these days. The main themes are locomotion, and the behaviour of sensory receptors. Of the two, the chapters on locomotion are probably the most interesting since they deal not only with vertebrate systems, but also with the beautiful detailed studies of neural circuitry in invertebrates. When seen together, such work provides a powerful insight into the mechanisms of locomotion. Studies of human walking are not included in this compilation. This is unfortunate, but perhaps only an indication of the wide gap that separates the purely descriptive human work from the neurophysiological detail studied in animals. The chapters on sensory receptors are good, but often tend to focus on minutiae which, although of interest to experts in the field, are less attractive to those who wish to use this collection as an up-to-date source of general concepts.

Finally, it is interesting to note the very small number of articles produced from authors in the United States, despite the fact that neuroscience there is more vigorous than in any other country in the world. Perhaps North American neuroscientists think that these are quaint backwaters of research, lacking all the excitement of modern imaging techniques. If so, then perhaps the present volume will bring some of the excitement of the field to their attention as well as the possible benefits that such research could bring to the large numbers of people who have difficulties in posture and locomotion.

JOHN ROTHWELL

SHORT NOTICES

Readers may be interested in:

Seminars in Neurology, June 1995. Vol. 15. No. 2. "Funny Spells". Guest Editor Randolph W Evans. (Pp 225; $35). Published by Thieme Medical Publishers, New York. ISBN 0271-8235.

Cambridge Medical Reviews. Neurobiology and Psychiatry; Neuroimaging. Edited by David Dawbarn and James McCulloch. (Pp 178; £50·00). Published by Oxford University Press, Oxford 1995. ISBN 0-521-45365-8 (hardback).

Continuous Spikes and Waves During Slow Sleep. Electrical Status Epilepticus During Slow Sleep. Edited by A Beaumanoir *et al.* (Pp 260; £32·00). Published by John Libbey and Co Ltd, London 1995. ISBN 0-86196-488-8.