BOOK REVIEW

Title: THE ASTHMATIC CHILD IN PLAY AND SPORT

Author: (Edited by) S. Oseid and A. M. Edwards. Proceedings of an International Symposium, Oslo, Norway

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As a former consultant chest physician and having been associated with a swimming club for the disabled for many years it gives me much pleasure to review such an excellent and attractive publication.

Asthma, originally described by Floyer in 1698 has produced much distress, unhappiness, isolation, and interference with education.

This book, the fruit of an International Symposium points the way to a happier and fuller existence for the asthmatic child. It should be read by all doctors and those concerned with rehabilitation.

The contributors, all internationally recognised experts in the field of respiratory physiology, have made a detailed study of the physiological pathology of asthma. Exercise induced asthma and the influence of mast cell mediators, climate and humidity are studied.

Scientific assessment is made of ventilation, broncho-constriction, and the standardisation of exercise challenge tests.

This is followed by evaluation of the therapeutic substances used in the prevention and treatment of exercise induced asthma.

The final chapters deal with rehabilitation, the exercise programme, the use of swimming and other activities, and educational facilities.

I cannot speak too highly of this book which should be studied in detail. It would be of great benefit and enjoyment to the reader to supplement his study by a visit to one of the symposia now being organised in this country.

Noel Bleasdale