Book reviews

The following books have been received and will be deposited in the BASM Library c/o NSMI:

Anspaugh DJ, Hanrick MH, Rosato FD. *Wellness: Concepts and Applications*. St. Louis, Missouri, USA: Mosby-Year Book, 1991.

Lavy CBD, Barrett DS. *Questions and Answers on Apley's Concise System of Orthopaedics and Fractures*. Oxford, UK: Butterworth-Heinemann, 1991.

Reid Champion M. *Hydrotherapy in Paediatrics*, 2nd ed. Oxford, UK: Butterworth-Heinemann, 1991.

Taylor WN. *Macho Medicine: A History of the Anabolic Steroid Epidemic*. Jefferson, North Carolina, USA: McFarland, 1992.

Talley NJ, O'Connor S. *Examination Medicine*, 2nd ed. Oxford, UK: Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1991.

The Anatomy of Injury and its Surgical Implications

P. S. London

Butterworth-Heinemann: Oxford, 1991. 254 × 192 mm. 128 pages. Illustrated. £29.50

The author of this book is from the Birmingham Accident Hospital and has a worldwide reputation as a teacher and trauma surgeon. In his introduction, Mr London bemoans the lack of knowledge of applied anatomy that he finds in recent generations, and this book aims to provide a guide to the relevant anatomy of injury. In

each chapter he also sprinkles warnings and points of special note and interest in the practical management of the injured patient. These are undoubtedly derived from the benefit of his vast experience.

There are 15 chapters devoted to regions of the body and a separate section on soft tissue injuries. Each chapter details the anatomy of the area under consideration, with many line drawings and occasional radiographs. The drawings are stylized, emphasizing the points Mr London wishes to make. Unfortunately, the radiographs have not been well reproduced. In one particular X-ray of the hand, the film appears to have been photographed with a flash gun and the bones are lost in the reflected glare.

The text is largely devoted to management of fractures and dislocations, but with due regard to soft tissues where relevant. There is a great deal that a casualty officer will find invaluable. There are explanations of the mechanism of injury, which leads on to advice on the technique for reduction by manipulation. Some indications for surgery are given, but the emphasis is on conservative management.

The book will be of most benefit to casualty departments and orthopaedic surgeons in the earlier part of their training, though there are gems to be found for everyone. In terms of the relevance to the sports medicine practitioner, the book gives an excellent insight into the anatomy of injury, particularly of fractures. It is useful for that, without it being an essential part of the practitioner's library.

Roger Hackney FRCS

Measuring and Recording of Joint Motion Instrumentation and Techniques

J. J. Gerhardt and J. Rippstein

Ontario, Canada: Hogrefe and Huber, 1990, 145 × 220 mm, 140 pp

The measurement and recording of joint range of movement accurately and reproducibly is important for monitoring changes in physical performance. Goniometry is the term used for the measurement of solid angles both statically and dynamically in Human Biomechanics. This book by Gerhardt and Rippstein describes a simple and unambiguous technique

for measuring and recording the range of joint movement statically. This has been descriptively named the SFTR recording method since it relates to the three basic planes Sagittal, Frontal and Transverse and the 'R' stands for the rotational movement about these planes. The planes relate to the anatomical position (neutral zero) of the body in the upright position as described in most anatomy or biomechanics textbooks. Numerous examples of employing this simplified universal system of recording joint angles with a clear plastic goniometer are given. This is followed by the description and use of the Plurimeter and Pluri-cal (Plurimeter attached to a caliper) system developed by Rippstein.

There is also a brief review of goniometers and inclinometers and a database of average ranges of motion of selected joints.

The overall impression of this book is one of disappointment since the ideas are valid and important, but it is poorly produced and it lacks scientific rigour. There is no attempt to quantify sources of error such as the location of joint centres, and the placement of the goniometer which are critical in this respect.

This volume is a useful introduction to the SFTR recording system in the Neutral Zero Method. If this simple system of recording ranges of joint movement is adopted universally it will avoid confusion about nomenclature and improve accuracy and brevity of recording results.

R. Wytch BSc, Cert Ed, FIMecE