and in vitro. This book will be a valuable reference for immunologists interested in understanding the effects of the brain-derived peptides on the immune system. The book is designed so an immunologist can, by reading the first few chapters, gain a basic understanding of what opiate peptides are and how they are generated, and then critically evaluate the immunological effects described in the book. The book suffers from the absence of a clear discussion of the functions and workings of the immune system, so that a neurobiologist who would pick up this book would likewise be able to understand the workings of the immune system. It is clear that in order for this science to progress, both immunologists and neuroscientists are going to have to work hand in hand. This book provides a valuable reference for at least one-half of this team.

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OUT-OF-DATE VIRUSES

Viruses, Immunity, and Immunodeficiency. Andor Szentivanyi and Herman Friedman, eds., Plenum Press, New York, 1986. 365 pp., illus. $55.00 (cloth).

The interrelationship of viruses and immunity is a hot and rapidly advancing research topic. But, despite being produced by photo offset, the book is sadly out-of-date. A publication of a symposium held by the University of South Florida in April 1984, it unfortunately best indicates the explosive expansion that immunology and virology have undergone in the last three years. The presentations on AIDS in the book are now historical overviews of the period before the human immunodeficiency virus was firmly identified as the causative agent.

In addition to its lack of timeliness, the book also suffers from a lack of general focus. Though individually interesting, the chapters cover a broad range of topics from congenital viral infections through a variety of human and animal viral diseases to concluding sections on basic immune mechanisms and immunotherapies. The depth of the individual chapters is extremely variable—from detailed scientific treatises, which include methods and results sections, to broad unreferenced overviews. Approximately half the chapters deal with clinical or basic science studies of human diseases, while the remainder cover infections in mice and cats. In the mechanisms of virus-associated immunoregulation subsection, a few chapters that deal with aging or the effects of sample processing and storage on flow cytometric studies of T-cell subsets seem unrelated to the principle theme.

It is difficult to define the potential market for this book. Certainly researchers and graduate students interested in specific agents such as Epstein-Barr, cytomegalovirus, herpes, hepatitis B, retroviruses, or human immunodeficiency virus will choose other more comprehensive and up-to-date texts. The same can be said for the topics of immunoadjuvants, lymphokines, and interferons, as well as general immunology. The book may be suitable as a very broad introduction for some undergraduates; however, many of them will not be satisfied with the outdated presentations and references (most from the late 1970s). One interesting quirk is that the one chapter with a reference style different from all others in the book is the one coauthored by the editors. A great topic, a good book, but too late.

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NEW TITLES


Biology and Management of the Cervidae. C. Wemmer, ed. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, DC, 1987. 577 pp., illus. $40.00 (cloth), $29.95 (paper).

The Biology of Moral Systems. R. D. Alexander. Aldine de Gruyter, Hawthorne, NY, 1987. 301 pp., illus. $34.95 (cloth), $16.95 (paper).


