ultrasound. It is certainly important from a research point of view, that upper GI screening is evaluated, but this should perhaps only be done in large centres, and not recommended to all gastroenterologists who may have only one or two affected patients. Similarly, although screening guidelines for Peutz-Jeghers disease appear reasonable on the surface, the recommendations for mammography screening on a five yearly basis from 25 years of age, and then two yearly from 38, are totally at odds with guidelines for high risk screening in breast cancer in general. There is a tendency to assume that screening should be offered for any tumour that can be shown to be occurring in excess without applying the usual rules of efficacy. There are also suggested screening protocols involving CT scanning for desmoid disease, and of small bowel enemas for Peutz-Jeghers disease, which involve exposure to fairly high doses of radiation on a repeated basis. In conditions where cancer risk is likely to be increased by exposure to radiation, a more cautious approach to this form of screening may be advised.

Inevitably the chapter on genetics is already outdated, but as the readership of this journal is likely to have extensive knowledge of the genetics of this condition if they were to purchase the book, then it is for the other aspects that the book would be bought in the first place. With the minor reservations that have already been made, I think this book should be highly recommended for those who are managing FAP in the clinical setting. Certainly for any polyposis register, a book like this should be purchased. It is incumbent upon clinical geneticists to know more than

the risks of certain features occurring, but also to have a working knowledge of all the options available, including surgery. I would therefore recommend this book to those with more than a passing interest in FAP.

GARETH EVANS

Animals with Novel Genes. Editor N Maclean. (Pp 266; £30.00.) Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 1994. ISBN 0-521-43256-1.

This book is intended for advanced undergraduates and graduate students and seeks to cover the current and future applications of transgenic technology from protozoans to large mammals. This is an ambitious but important goal as the production and analysis of transgenic animals is a rapidly expanding field and an increasingly vital tool in the investigation of gene function. Current transgenic technology allows the examination of regulatory elements in a complex environment, overexpression or ectopic expression of a variety of gene products, or the elimination of specific genes. Such studies add to those performed in the much simpler environment of tissue culture where, for example, it is difficult to assess accurately the developmental and tissue specific nature of DNA sequences controlling gene expression.

The first chapter provides an overview of the production and use of transgenic animals and examines ethical and legal problems associated with such organisms. Ethical questions are tackled in a very straightforward

manner but are unlikely to find universal approval. The subsequent chapters review transgenic insects, fish, birds, rodents, and large mammals before ending with a very brief chapter on transgenic organisms from other orders. Overall these reviews are well presented with a wealth of useful information and a good selection of references to enable further reading. Readers without a molecular biology background may find some sections rather heavy going but they should still find it possible to grasp the range and potential power of the various methods of genetic manipulation currently in use.

The major limitation of this book is that shared by nearly all publications in fast moving fields. Indeed this book is the successor of many of those only written in 1991 and 1992 which are cited in the introductory chapter. The various contributions in this volume appear to have been written in 1993 and already the field has moved on considerably in many areas. The authors have made brave efforts to predict those areas of future development and in most cases are unlikely to have to wait for long to assess the accuracy of their predictions. In summary, this book is a good review of the current state of transgenic technology and will serve as a useful overview text for senior molecular biology based courses. It will also be a useful primer for those contemplating the production of transgenic animals. In the current climate of expensive speciality books the price is very reasonable and I would recommend its purchase both by departmental libraries and individual readers.

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