

Viruskrankheiten der Haut der Schleimhäute und des Genitales

Th. Nasemann (ed.)
Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1974
(xii + 285 pp., 232 Figs., 32 Tables)
DM 69. —

This volume, especially written for clinicians interested in viral diseases, presents to the reader the necessary information in a rather compact form. It contains a general and a special part. The general part entails: the etiological, pathological, epidemiological and diagnostic aspects of viral diseases. The special part presents information on all known viral diseases.

For use by the gynecologist, the chapters on herpes genitalis, lymphogranuloma inguinale and condylomata accuminata are well worth reading. The chapters on possible fetal involvement in case of maternal viral infection are valuable as well.

This volume can be used as a reference book for specialists of different discipline.

J. Kleinhout, Amsterdam

Kontrazeption trotz Geburtenrückgang

R. Kepp, H. Koester and P. Bailer (eds.)
Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, 1975
(x + 134 pp., 45 Figs., 39 Tables)
DM 19.80

This book in German contains nine lectures including the discussions presented at the fourth postgraduate course on contraception in October 1973 at the Justus Liebig University in Giesen, Germany.

The title of the book is the theme of the course. However, only the presentation of Husslein concerns the demographical aspects of contraception. The other papers review different subjects mainly related to hormonal contraception.

Patt summarizes concisely the mode and site of action of hormonal contraceptives. Taubert tries to answer the difficult question of which hormonal contraceptive method fits which kind of woman. Lauritzen deals with the subject of contraception in adolescent girls. Disturbances of the menstrual cycle after discontinuation of any form of hormonal contraception is reviewed by Hansen. Sigusch in a partly political and philosophical oriented paper describes the changing attitude of young women towards sex by the availability of the very safe hormonal contraceptives. Kaiser presents the results of investigations on the influence of hormonal contraceptives on breast and genital tumors. Mende advises not to promote sterilization procedures because he observes 10-15% psychological side effects. However, his data are based on reports concerning psychiatric patients or even forced sterilization procedures during World War II. In the discussion he cannot disprove his opponents. Bailer shortly reviews the knowledge on intrauterine devices.

The course was held nearly two years ago so the references do not cover the last 2 to 3 years.

The quality of the contributions varies. Some will particularly appeal to medical specialists like gynecologists or psychiatrists, while others provide basic knowledge for family doctors.

I can recommend this book to everyone who wants basic information on the subjects mentioned above.

H. J. F. Coelingh Benninck, Utrecht