

Books Received

Oncogenic Viruses, Third Edition. Ludwik Gross, M. D., F. A. C. P. Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1983. 1203 pages, 103 illustrations. Hard case, 2 volume set; U.S. \$200.00. ISBN 0 08 026830 7.

This revised and expanded two volume third edition of *Oncogenic Viruses* is a credit to the author, Dr. Ludwik Gross. The primary aim of the book is to discuss in general terms the role of tumor viruses in experimental cancer research. Dr. Gross has tackled the overwhelming amount of new information on oncogenic viruses and incorporated it into this new edition. Thus, all chapters that were in the second edition have been updated and several chapters have been completely rewritten. In addition, Dr. Gross has introduced several new chapters on "Tumors, Leukemia and Lymphosarcomas in Fish," "The Slow Virus Diseases and Their Possible Relation to Cancer and Leukemia," "Isolation of a Polyoma-like Virus (J.C.) from a Rare Human Brain Disease (PML)," "Virus-induced Leukemia, Lymphomas, and Other Tumors in Nonhuman Primates," and "Inadvertent and Experimental Transmission of Human Cancer." The Rauscher Virus Strain has been added to the chapter on "The Friend Virus." "Marek's Disease" has been added to the chapter on "The Chicken Leukosis Complex." I would have preferred a more complete discussion of the possible role of herpes simplex virus and cytomegalovirus in oncogenesis and this information will have to be sought elsewhere.

This book does not discuss the molecular biology of tumor viruses and the omission is not an oversight. Any serious attempt to discuss this subject would have required another two or three volumes and the information is already available elsewhere. Nevertheless, it would have been informative to give a little more space to recent work on "oncogenes." In the long run, failure to do so may have been judicious because the rapidly accumulating information in this area makes interpretation of the observations difficult.

Dr. Gross can be proud of this third edition which surpasses the high standards set in the earlier editions. The book is of excellent quality: the paper is very good, the print is easy to read. The photographs and electronmicrographs are of fine quality. The book is a pleasure to read and deserves high marks for content (a tribute to Dr. Gross) and for appearance (thanks to Pergamon Press). The fine quality of these volumes offsets the high price. It will do the students interested in oncogenesis little harm to know something of the history of their field and there is no competition to these volumes for obtaining it.

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Cancer Treatment and Research 26. Chronic and Acute Leukemias in Adults. Clara D. Bloomfield (Ed.). Martinus Nijhoff, Dordrecht, 1985. 358 pages. Price: Cloth Dfl. 268,00; U.S. \$69.50; £55.75. ISBN 0 89838 702 7.

Developments in Oncology. RNA Tumour Viruses, Oncogenes, Human Cancer and AIDS. P. Furmanski, J. C. Hager and M. A. Rich (Eds.). Martinus Nijhoff, Dordrecht, 1985. 409 pages. Price: Cloth Dfl. 200,00; U.S. \$49.95; £41.50. ISBN 0 89838 703 5.

Prostaglandins, Leukotrienes and Cancer 4. Prostaglandins and Immunity. J. S. Goodwin (Ed.). Martin Nijhoff, Dordrecht, 1985. 209 pages. Price: Cloth Dfl. 167,00; U.S. \$42.50; £37.95. ISBN 0 89838 723 X.

Serono Symposia Publications from Raven Press, Vol. 20. The Cytobiology of Leukemias and Lymphomas. D. Quaglino and F. G. J. Hayhoe (Eds.). Raven Press, New York, 1985. 524 pages. Price: U.S. \$59.50. ISBN 0 88167 091 X.