

BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of "Bedeutung und gerichtsmedizinische Anwendung der DNS-Fluorochromierung von Chromosomen und Zellkernen"

REFERENCE: Schwinger, Eberhard, *Bedeutung und gerichtsmedizinische Anwendung der DNS-Fluorochromierung von Chromosomen und Zellkernen*, Max Schmidt-Römhild, Lübeck, West Germany, 1975, 76 pages, price not listed. (*The Forensic Use of DNA-Fluorochromes for Chromosomes and Cell Nuclei.*)

In this book the author explores the use of the quinacrine fluorochrome in forensic medicine. Caspersson has already indicated that homologue differences might be a personal identifying feature. The author discusses this aspect of cytogenetics and points to the difficulties, mostly of a technical nature.

More interesting to forensic medicine is the prospect of identifying sex from single cells by means of the fluorescent Y chromosome which appears in 70% of hair cells as a brightly fluorescing body in the nucleus. This test can be usefully performed in fresh blood, and less so in old blood. Confusion with other chromosome regions, such as that of number 3, should not be overlooked.

The book has numerous references, but the illustrations leave much to be desired.

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