

BOOK REVIEW

Ross E. Zumwalt,¹ M.D.

A Review of Pathology Annual 1988

REFERENCE: Rosen, P. P. and Fechner, R. R. E., *Pathology Annual 1988*, Appleton & Lange, 25 Van Zant St., East Norwalk, CT 06855, 330 pp.

This collection of eleven monographs on anatomic pathology topics should appeal to the surgical pathologist in a hospital practice. The selected topics are timely and cover a wide range. The individual articles are all well written, thoroughly referenced, and adequately illustrated. The editors have done a commendable job in their selection of authors to present state-of-the-art information and techniques on their subjects. The general hospital pathologist should find his time well spent in reading this collection of review articles.

There is very little in this volume directed toward the practicing forensic pathologist. Three of the eleven monographs, however, should be of interest: the discussion of a detailed postmortem examination of the heart for coronary arteriosclerosis by Giraldo and Higgins, the review of hypersensitivity pneumonitis by Hammar, and the discussion of radioactive vasculitis by Fajardo and Berthrong.

In particular the detailed techniques for postmortem coronary angiography and microscopic evaluation of coronary arteries proposed by Giraldo and Higgins will be valuable for forensic pathologists who more and more frequently are being called upon to examine postsurgical deaths, a trend that has accelerated with the increased concern about medical malpractice and the decline of the hospital autopsy. For many of the same reasons the forensic pathologist will find the article on vascular changes following radiation of practical importance.

The review of hypersensitivity pneumonitis should also interest forensic pathologists since it discusses an environmental or occupational exposure. In their discussion of the differential diagnosis the authors however fail to mention intravenous drug abuse which cause foreign body granulomas very similar to the ones illustrated in the article.

This volume should be a valuable addition to the library of the surgical pathologist. For the forensic pathologist however, a visit to the medical library to read the reviews pertinent to forensic pathology should suffice.

¹Assistant chief medical investigator, Office of the Medical Investigator, State of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.