

- Surgery: surgical cytoreduction for advanced ovarian cancer; tumor aggressiveness and surgical results; prognostic and therapeutic value of second surgery in epithelial ovarian carcinoma; biological and clinical significance of lymph node metastases in ovarian carcinoma; lymphadenectomy in ovarian carcinoma: techniques and complications;
- Radiotherapy: radiotherapy in ovarian cancer; a reassessment after 20 years of experience; problems and premises;
- Advanced ovarian cancer (AOC): *in vitro* chemosensitivity and survival of patients with previously untreated AOC; cisplatin and carboplatin in combination chemotherapy; combination chemotherapy in AOC; chemotherapy of AOC; carboplatin: the present position;
- New therapeutic modalities: pathologic complete responses in advanced epithelial ovarian cancer: prognostic factors for long-term survival; intraperitoneal chemotherapy; monoclonal antibody 791T/36-ricin A chain immunotoxin in treatment; interleukin-2; LHR agonist treatment; pharmacologic reversal of drug resistance in ovarian cancer.

This volume would be useful for oncologists, gynecologists, endocrinologists, reproductive biologists, general clinicians and advanced students.

Affinity Labelling and Cloning of Steroid and Thyroid Hormone Receptors. Edited by H. GRONEMEYER. Published 1988 jointly by Ellis Horwood Ltd, Chichester, U.K. and VCH Verlagsgesellschaft, mbH, Weinheim, F.R.G. No. of pages 322. ISBN: 0895-73579-2. ISSN: 0930-3367. Price: US\$125.00.

This book describes the exploration of a pathway—sometimes stony and tedious—that leads from the identification and characterization of some members of a family of transcriptional regulatory proteins to the initiation of their functional analysis. Along the way some old questions have been answered but, more importantly, it has become possible to ask new types of questions which were hidden beyond the scientific horizon a few years ago.

The book is divided into three main sections concerning steroid and thyroid hormone receptors: techniques used in affinity labeling studies; applications of affinity labeling techniques; cloning and functional analysis; covering the following topics: estrogen receptor; glucocorticoid receptor; the chicken progesterone receptor; human progesterone receptor; androgen receptor; thyroid receptor; affinity labeling of estrogen receptors; affinity labeling of glucocorticoid receptors and applications; glucocorticoid receptor mutants; photoaffinity labeling of the chicken progesterone receptor; photoaffinity labeling of the human progesterone receptor; molecular weight determination of the androgen receptor by affinity labeling techniques; photoaffinity labeling of thyroid hormone receptors; the superfamily of nuclear receptor genes—DNA cloning strategies; the nuclear receptor family—cloning, structure and function; analysis of the human glucocorticoid receptor gene promoter; characterization of a *c-erbA*-thyroid hormone receptor cDNA and its viral homologue.

All the chapters have been written by leading researchers in this field and this book would be useful for people working in biology, endocrinology, physiology, biochemistry and molecular biology.

Neuroendocrine Control of the Hypothalamo-Pituitary System. Taniguchi Symposia on Brain Sciences, No. 11. Edited by HIROO IMURA. Published 1988 jointly by Japan Scientific Societies Press and S. Karger AG, Basel, Switzerland. 250 pages, 77 Figs, 15 Tables. ISBN: 3-8055-4883-4. Price: £66.90, DM 176,000, US\$98.00.

During the last 20 years several important contributions have been made to elucidate the complex mechanism controlling the hypothalamo-pituitary system. Firstly, the discovery of hypothalamic hypophysiotropic hormones, beginning with the identification of thyrotropin-releasing hormone in 1969, has greatly facilitated our understanding of the hypothalamic control of anterior pituitary function. Secondly, the discovery of a variety of neuropeptides, including opioid peptides, vasoactive intestinal polypeptide and galanin, has further boosted the interest of researchers in exploring the intrahypothalamic mechanism regulating secretion of posterior pituitary hormones and hypophysiotropic hormones. Immunohistochemical technique and radioimmunoassay of neuropeptides have been of great help in elucidating neuroendocrine anatomy and physiology of the hypothalamus. Thirdly, the introduction of recombinant DNA technology has opened a new horizon in research of the hypothalamo-pituitary system by clarifying the structure and expression of neuropeptide precursor genes. The introduction of these genes into cultured cells or fertilized ova has led to a rapid increase in our knowledge of tissue specific expression of certain neuropeptide precursor genes in a given neuronal cell.

This book attempts to provide state of the art information on the fundamental mechanism controlling the hypothalamo-pituitary system. Emphasis is placed on the molecular biology of neuropeptides, peptidergic mechanisms in the control of pituitary function, neuron-glia interaction and some aspects of clinical neuroendocrinology.

The following topics are covered divided into three main sections:

- Intrahypothalamic mechanism in the regulation of pituitary function: the mammalian GnRH gene, a central role in mammalian reproduction; a cyclic AMP-regulatory region in the human vasoactive intestinal polypeptide/peptide histidine methionine-27 gene; feedback- and hypoglycemia-induced regulation of secretion and synthesis of ACTH and CRF; central regulation of stimulus-induced ACTH secretion, characterization of hypophysial-portal plasma CRF and AVP concentration profiles; intracellular regulatory mechanisms of LHRH secretion and the onset of female puberty; control of LHRH secretion in women and female rats; regulation of dopamine synthesis *in vitro* in rat tubero-infundibular dopaminergic neurons by hormones and neurotransmitters; role of galanin and related peptides in prolactin and GH secretion in the rat; opioid peptides and neuroendocrine function in man; thyroid hormone metabolism in the pituitary and brain and its possible role in neuroendocrine control.
- Hypothalamic control of anterior pituitary function: the mechanisms of action of prolactin on gonadotropin release; inhibitory regulation by the central nervous system of the growth hormone secretion from the rat anterior pituitary; physiological role of short loop-feedback GH autoregulation in producing a 3HR-pulsatile GH secretory pattern in conscious male rats; GRF and somatostatin in the regulation of GH secretion; growth hormone neurosecretory dysfunction.
- Neurohypophysial hormones; neuronal-glia interactions and synaptic remodelling in the control of magnocellular neurosecretory activity; pituitary control of posterior pituitary secretion; vasopressin, physical stress potentiates but emotional stress suppresses its secretion; oxytocin release during suckling, parturition, stress and hyperosmolality in the rat.

This book would be useful for endocrinologists, neurobiologists, biochemists, physiologists and those working in the field of molecular biology.