

The role of mediastinoscopy in the selection of treatment for bronchial carcinoma with involvement of superior mediastinal lymph nodes. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1972;**64**:382–90.

⁸ Clee MD, Duguid HLD, Sinclair DJM. Accuracy of morphological diagnosis of lung cancer in a depart-

ment of respiratory medicine. *J Clin Pathol* 1982;**35**:414–9.

⁹ Greco FA, Oldham RK. Current concepts in cancer: small-cell lung cancer. *N Engl J Med* 1979;**301**:355–8.

¹⁰ Weiss RB. Small-cell carcinoma of the lung: therapeutic management. *Ann Intern Med* 1978;**88**:522–31.

Book notices

Diagnostic Tumour Bibliographies I—Tumours of the Trachea, Bronchus, Lung and Pleura. WF Whimster. (Pp. 167; £20.) Pitman Books. 1983.

A book of 167 pages of tumour bibliography covering tumours of the trachea, bronchus, lung and pleura sounds a fairly dry tome. This volume covers a total of 70 tumour or tumour like conditions which have been reported as having occurred in the lung. For each there is a brief introduction with key references, and the author's brief and pithy comments are valuable and interesting. There follows a list of references in which best accounts are identified and single one line comments indicate the importance of individual references. The number of references included has been finely judged, the references being selected and adequate, but not so many as to be off putting. Despite its severe presentation this is a fascinating book. Even those interested in the field are likely to find many unfamiliar references among the better known ones. The brief comments are just sufficient to whet the appetite and send the reader back to the library. This is an essential reference book for anyone interested in diagnosis or management of tumours of the lung, pathologist or clinician. The price is high, but the book is well worth it.—D L

Physiology of the Lung. TPK Lim. (Pp 185; \$16.75—spiral, paper binding.) Charles C Thomas. 1983.

The basis of this book is a straightforward account of conventional pulmonary physiology. The author has compressed a remarkable amount of physiological information into a small space and still left room for interesting examples and asides. In addition to sections dealing with standard pulmonary physiology there are chapters on hypoxia, altitude and diving, and respiratory treatment. A final chapter contains short case histories with pulmonary func-

tion tests—each followed by multiple choice questions. The reader who is already familiar with the subject matter will find that the book reads easily, but the condensed presentation will probably make it difficult for the novice to assimilate the more complex passages. Teachers and students of pulmonary physiology should be aware of the book as a perfectly adequate basic text on the subject, but most students will probably opt for one of several other works offering a more selective and more explanatory approach.—RALB

Methods for Cohort Studies of Chronic Airflow Limitation. C du V Florey and SR Leeder. (Pp 134; Sw fr 19.) Copenhagen: World Health Organisation (European Series No 12). 1982.

This booklet provides an introduction to investigators setting up studies of chronic respiratory disease, covering approaches to sample size, questionnaires, lung function tests, data preparation, statistical analysis, and record keeping. A major and useful part of the booklet reproduces in full the various questionnaires used by the Medical Research Council in Britain, the ATS-DLD version used in North America, and others developed by WHO and the EEC for use with children. The advice is simply written and model calculations are given to illustrate some of the techniques and problems. Less guidance is provided on the critical question of how to handle the data gathered, except to state that analytical methods for repeated measures for cohort data are “perhaps less advanced than those for cross-sectional data.” Such topics as expected rates of change in lung function, the role of FEV₁ level in annual decline in FEV₁, and the use of bronchodilators are not addressed, so that the intending investigator would be well advised to complement this somewhat theoretical check list of initial study design by reading a description of a completed practical example such as the monograph *The Natural History of Chronic Bronchitis and Emphysema* by Fletcher and colleagues.