

THORAX

The Journal of the British Thoracic Society

A Registered Charity

President: DONALD LANE

Executive Editor: S G Spiro

Associate Editors: N C Barnes, J R Britton, P M A Calverley, T W Evans, A R Gibbs, A P Greening, D K Kaplan, G Laszlo, G J Laurent, M D L Morgan, M F Muers, D J Shale, B H Stack, J O Warner

Technical Editor: Elizabeth Stockman

Editorial Assistant: Angela Betchley

Advisory Board

P J Barnes

P S Burge

D M Geddes

International Advisory Board

J M Antó Spain

C N Deivanayagam India

P Goldstraw

C Haslett

P J Helms

A J Hance France

J C Hogg Canada

D M Mitchell

J Moxham

A J Peacock

N Høiby Denmark

N A Saunders Australia

R M Rudd

M Woodhead

Editor, *British Medical Journal*

M J Tobin USA

A de Troyer Belgium

Notice to contributors

Thorax is the journal of the British Thoracic Society. It is intended primarily for the publication of original work relevant to diseases of the thorax. Contributions may be submitted by workers who are not members of the society. The following notes are for the guidance of contributors. Papers may be returned if presented in an inappropriate form.

SUBMISSION AND PRESENTATION The original typescript and three copies of all papers should be sent to the Executive Editor, Dr S G Spiro, *Thorax* Editorial Office, Private Patients' Wing, University College Hospital, 25 Grafton Way, London WC1E 6DB. Editorial and historical articles are normally commissioned but the Editor may accept uncommissioned articles of this type. Manuscripts must be accompanied by a declaration, signed by all authors, that the paper is not under consideration by any other journal at the same time and that it has not been accepted for publication elsewhere. The typescript should bear the name and address of the author who will deal with editorial correspondence, and also a fax number if possible. Authors may be asked to supply copies of similar material they have published previously. Papers are accepted on the understanding that they may undergo editorial revision. In the event of rejection one copy of the text may be retained for future reference.

Authors should follow the requirements of the International Steering Committee of Medical Editors (*BMJ* 1979;i:532-5). Papers must be typed in double spacing with wide margins for correction and on one side of the paper only. They should include a structured abstract on a separate sheet (see below). Papers should contain adequate reference to previous work on the subject. Descriptions of experimental procedures on patients not essential for the investigation or treatment of their condition must include a written assurance that they were carried out with the informed consent of the subjects concerned and with the agreement of the local ethics committee.

ABSTRACT Abstracts, which should be of no more than 250 words, should state clearly why the study was done, how it was carried out (including number and brief details of subjects, drug doses, and experimental design), results, and main conclusions. They should be structured to go under the headings "Background", "Methods", "Results", and "Conclusions".

KEYWORDS Authors should include on the manuscript up to three key words or phrases suitable for use in an index.

STATISTICAL METHODS The Editor recommends that authors refer to Altman DG, Gore SM, Gardner MJ, Pocock SJ. *Statistical guidelines for contributors to medical journals. BMJ* 1983;286:1489-93. Authors should name any statistical methods used and give details of randomisation procedures. For large numbers of observations it is often preferable to give mean values and an estimate of the scatter (usually 95% confidence intervals) with a footnote stating from whom the full data may be obtained. The power of the study to detect a significant difference should be given when appropriate and may be requested by referees. Standard deviation (SD) and standard error (SE) should be given in parenthesis (not preceded by \pm) and identified by SD or SE at the first mention.

SI UNITS The units in which measurements were made should be cited. If they are not SI units the factors for conversion to SI units should be given as a footnote. This is the responsibility of the author.

ILLUSTRATIONS Line drawings, graphs, and diagrams should be prepared to professional standards and submitted as originals or as unmounted glossy photographic prints. Particular care is needed with photomicrographs, where detail is easily lost—it is often more informative to show a small area at a high magnification than a large area. Scale bars should be used to indicate magnification. The size of the symbols and lettering (upper and lower case rather than all capitals) and thickness of lines should take account of the likely reduction of the figure—usually to a width of 65 mm. Three copies of each illustration should be submitted. Each should bear a label on the back marked in pencil with the names of the authors and the number of the figure, and the top should be indicated. Legends should be typed on a separate sheet. Authors must pay for colour illustrations.

REFERENCES Responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of references rests entirely with the authors. References will not be checked in detail by the Editor but

papers in which errors are detected are unlikely to be accepted. Reference to work published in abstract form is allowed only in exceptional circumstances—for example, to acknowledge priority or indebtedness for ideas. References should be numbered in the order in which they are first mentioned and identified in text, tables, and legends to figures by arabic numerals above the line. References cited only (or first) in tables or legends should be numbered according to where the particular table or figure is first mentioned in the text. The list of references should be typed in double spacing and in numerical order on separate sheets. The information should include reference number, authors' names and initials (all authors unless more than six, in which case the first six names are followed by *et al.*), title of article, and in the case of journal articles name of journal (abbreviated according to the style of *Index Medicus*), year of publication, volume, and first and last page numbers. The order and the punctuation are important and should conform to the following examples:

1 Anderson HR. Chronic lung disease in the Papua New Guinea Highlands. *Thorax* 1979;34:647-53.

2 Green AB, Brown CD. *Textbook of pulmonary disease*. 2nd ed. London: Silver Books, 1982:49.

3 Grey EF. Cystic fibrosis. In: Green AB, Brown CD, eds. *Textbook of pulmonary disease*. London: Silver Books, 1982:349-62.

SHORT PAPERS Short reports of experimental work, new methods, or a preliminary report can be accepted as two page papers. The maximum length of such an article is 1400 words, inclusive of structured abstract, tables, illustrations and references.

CASE REPORTS A single case can be published as a case report. It will be limited to 850 words, one table or illustration, a short unstructured abstract, and 10 references.

CORRESPONDENCE The Editor welcomes letters related to articles published in *Thorax*. These should not exceed 300 words or contain more than three references, which should be listed at the end of the letter. Letters should be typed in double spacing with wide margins and must be signed by all authors.

REPRINTS Reprints are available at cost if they are ordered when the proof is returned.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Applications for advertisement space and for rates should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, *Thorax*, BMJ Publishing Group, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS *Thorax* is published monthly. The annual subscription rate is £171.00 (\$309.00) worldwide. Orders should be sent to the Subscription Manager, *Thorax*, BMJ Publishing Group, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Orders may also be placed with any leading subscription agent or bookseller. Subscribers may pay for their subscriptions by Access, Visa, or American Express by quoting on their order the credit or charge card preferred together with the appropriate personal account number and the expiry date of the card. For the convenience of readers in the USA subscription orders with or without payment may also be sent to *British Medical Journal*, Box 560B, Kennebunkport, Maine 04046. All inquiries, however, must be addressed to the publisher in London. All inquiries about air mail rates and single copies already published should also be addressed to the publisher in London. Second class postage paid, at Rahway New Jersey. Postmaster: send address changes to *Thorax* c/o Mercury Airfreight International Ltd Inc, 2323 Randolph Avenue, Avenel, NJ 07001, USA.

COPYRIGHT © 1994 THORAX This publication is copyright under the Berne Convention and the International Copyright Convention. All rights reserved. Apart from any relaxations permitted under national copyright laws, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without the prior permission of the copyright owners. Permission is not, however, required for copying abstracts of papers or of articles on condition that a full reference to the source is shown. Multiple copying of the contents of the publication without permission is always illegal.

ISSN 0040-6376



ROYAL BROMPTON
NATIONAL HEART & LUNG INSTITUTE
In association with
ROYAL BROMPTON NATIONAL
HEART & LUNG HOSPITALS

COURSE IN OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASE
20-22 April, 1994

COURSE ORGANISER

Professor A J Newman Taylor

This three day course is designed for consultants and for those in training, in thoracic medicine and occupational medicine. It will also interest others involved in these fields.

The course will include epidemiology, radiology, lung function and clinical aspects of occupational lung diseases such as:

Inorganic and organic dust pneumoconioses
Lung cancer and mesothelioma
Asthma
Byssinosis
Occupational bronchitis
Respiratory infections

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE:

Professor A J Newman Taylor, Dr C A C Pickering,
Dr K M Venables

COURSE FEE:

£350.00 (includes coffee, lunch, tea and course reception)

For further information and an application form please contact:

Conference Centre, National Heart and Lung Institute,
Dovehouse Street, London SW3 6LY.
Telephone: 071-351 8172 (24hr answering service)
Fax: 071-376 3442

APOLLO

*An anthology of poems by doctor poets
compiled and introduced by Edward Lowbury*

Poetry and medicine are not as far apart as you might think: the Greeks attributed both to one god, Apollo.

In *Apollo* poems by medical writers from classical times to the twentieth century have been chosen and edited with an introduction by Edward Lowbury, himself a distinguished doctor poet.

Including works by Rabelais, Sir Thomas Browne, Goldsmith, Keats, Schiller, Ronald Ross, William Carlos Williams, and Dannie Abse, this beautifully produced limited edition would make an ideal gift – or why not treat yourself?

ISBN 0 7279 0296 2 160 pages
UK £20.00; Overseas £23.00

Available from: BMJ Publishing Group, PO Box 295
London WC1H 9TE (Telephone 071 383 6185/6245)

Help to fight the battle

"This book is written with an authority that reflects the direct experience and commitment of the authors working in the field of tobacco control. In my view it should be required reading for anyone interested in combating smoking."

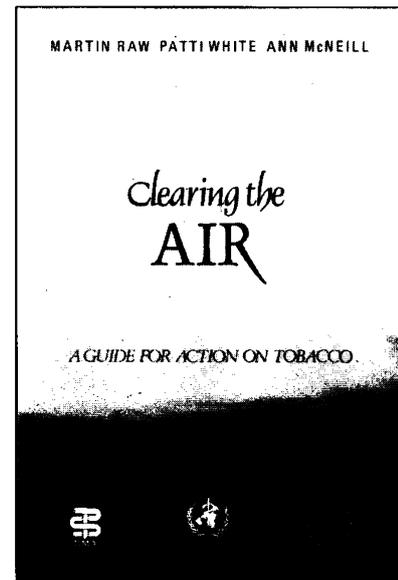
Thorax

"I doubt that any reader will go away without learning something new. I strongly recommend the book to anyone involved in developing tobacco control programmes. It will also be of interest to anyone concerned with broader issues such as public health, advocacy, and health and social policy."

British Journal of Addiction

"It is a clearly written, engaging account of the various fronts on which the tobacco wars are being fought—and won."

Canadian Medical Association Journal



UK £6.95; Abroad £7.95
BMA members: UK £6.45; Abroad £7.45
including postage by air abroad

**Available from: Professional & Scientific Publications,
PO Box 295, London WC1H 9TE, medical booksellers or
the BMJ bookshop in BMA House (book tokens accepted,
UK only).**

Please send me _____ copy/ies of

CLEARING THE AIR

I enclose _____ BMA Membership No _____

Please make cheques payable to **British Medical Journal**

Debit my credit card (please tick box)

Visa American Express Mastercard

Card No _____

Card expiry date _____

Signature _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTCODE _____

Please send me a BMJ book catalogue

Pediatric Respiratory Disease. Bettina C Hilman. (Pp 953; £148.00). Philadelphia: Saunders, 1993. 0 7216 4683 2. The vast multiauthor textbook seems to me to be akin to the thumb and blanket beloved by Linus in the Snoopy cartoons; very comforting, but often of little practical use in a tight place. Respiratory paediatricians seeking a comfort have hitherto only the monumental Kendig to turn to; now a new largely North American rival has appeared on the scene. This multiauthor textbook comprises nearly 1000 pages, starting with some basic science and physiology, diagnostic evaluation and then sections on the major respiratory diseases. Amazingly for a paediatric textbook, there is no major chapter on the growth of the respiratory system. The coverage of specific diseases is patchy, being outdated at the growing points, but with very good accounts of more standard topics. The index is often very unhelpful in trying quickly to track down answers. Inevitably, despite the size

of the book, the information on rarities is insufficient to guide clinical decisions. The references are extensive and reasonably up to date. There are many well produced illustrations. My favourite moment of unintentional light relief was the double headed stethoscope, which is straight out of Professor Branestawm (and if you do not know who he is, you should not be looking after children). So who will buy this book and for what purpose? It is far too large for MRCP candidates; trainees (and trainers) in paediatric respiratory medicine will want to have access to a copy as a source of emergency comfort when faced with a rare problem and no access to Medline; and big libraries will want a copy to fill the shelves. My copy was stolen more often than Kendig, which is probably a fair reflection of the merits of the two books, but most overstretched personal purses will wait to see the other multi-authored books which are rumoured to be coming soon before spending £148 on Hilman. - AB

NOTICE

Occupational Asthma in Practice

A course on Occupational Asthma in Practice (organiser Dr K Venables) will be held at the National Heart and Lung Institute, Dovehouse Street, London SW3 6LY on 1-2 February 1994. Enquiries to 071-351 8172 (24-hour answering service) or Fax 071-376 3442.

CORRECTION

