BOOK REVIEWS

Manual of emergency orthopaedics

By PHILLIP M. SEGELOV

Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh. 1986. 234 pp. £14.95.

This manual is aimed at junior staff in the training grades and is excellent value for those engaged in accident and emergency work. It is equally suitable for SHO's training in orthopaedic surgery. It is not intended to be a reference book in the strict sense, but more of a handy book that can be readily consulted, with safe guidelines in a wide range of orthopaedic conditions.

The manual is conveniently divided into nine sections, each dealing with particular areas of the body. The first section looks at general issues of orthopaedics, discussing whether a fracture needs reducing, together with simple anaesthesia and analgesia. Other sections deal with fractures on a regional basis.

There is an excellent section on the limping child which contains more than enough information to prevent juniors making serious mistakes.

The manual has the advantage of being written by a single author who clearly demonstrates a deal of enthusiasm. His simple drawings are excellent, particularly when superimposed upon X-ray radiographs. Unfortunately, some of the photographs are poorly produced and, on one or two of them, it is virtually impossible to see what exactly the point is. This aspect is probably a reflection of the publishers maintaining an informative Manual at a very reasonable cost for the use of junior doctors.

At £14.95, it represents good value. The only flaw being some poor illustrations which do not do justice to an otherwise excellent Manual.

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Manual of Emergency Medicine

By J. L. JENKINS & J. LOSCALZO

Little, Brown & Co., Boston. 1986. 493 pp. £24.00.

Manual of Emergency Medicine is a new edition to the Little, Brown spiral-bound manual series. It is described as being a 'convenient reference for medical students, ER