

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ters. Highly recommended for any library that collects in the areas of folk, traditional, alternative, or holistic medicine.—*Natalie Kupferberg, Brooklyn Coll. Lib., New York*

Flamm, Bruce L., M.D. **Birth After Cesarean: The Medical Facts.**

Prentice Hall Pr. Jun. 1990. c.224p. bibliog. index. LC 89-22900. ISBN 0-13-080102-X. \$16.95. MED

One in every four births in the United States is delivered by Cesarean section, and over one-third of these are repeat operations based on the medical myth that once a woman has a Cesarean delivery, all future deliveries must be handled that way. After years of deliberation, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists has recently recommended that routine repeat Cesarean sections should no longer be performed, with only a few exceptions. In this handbook, Flamm successfully describes and defends this newly popular concept of vaginal birth after Cesarean (VBAC). He discusses the subject in depth, using a question-and-answer format which, along with a very complete table of contents, makes this book an easily accessible text for library patrons. Highly recommended.—*Debra Berlanstein, Towson State Univ., Baltimore*

Goldstein, Irwin, M.D. & Larry Rothstein. **The Potent Male: Fact, Fiction, Future.**

Body Pr: HP Bks: Price/Stern/Sloan. 1990. c.224p. ISBN 0-89586-828-8. pap. \$12.95. MED

With the help of writer Rothstein, urology professor Goldstein has produced this work focusing on male impotence (the title may mislead) with an emphasis on the interacting effects of psychological and physiological problems. The work is told from the physician's perspective, with illustrative anecdotes and examples drawn from cases. While certainly not as accessible as Eileen and Bruce MacKenzie's *It's Not All in Your Head* (LJ 4/15/88), this nonetheless has the same self-help approach as Steven Morganstern's *Love Again, Live Again* (Prentice Hall, 1988). Except for the brief section on the future, this work has nothing new to add to the many current works on the topic. If, however, your collection lacks a current work on impotence, this title would be a good addition.—*Robert Aken, Univ. of Kentucky Libs., Lexington*

Greene, A.C. **Taking Heart.**

S. & S. Jul. 1990. c.208p. ISBN 0-671-68392-6. \$18.95. MED

This Texas writer received a heart transplant in his early 60s as his own heart

progressively deteriorated. His account of his experiences—the shock of knowing he was dying, the anxiety of waiting for a suitable heart replacement, the physical and emotional trauma of the transplant itself—is high drama, yet it is also accompanied by a good, clear exposition of the medical art and science involved. Not all transplant patients have made as successful a transition to a new mode of living as Greene seems to have done; thus part of the appeal of his book is an upbeat philosophy that has evidently sustained him through an extremely stressful period in his life. Obviously, those facing similar problems would find this a helpful book, but it is also recommended to all general readers for the story itself.—*Eleanor Maass Assocs., New Milford, Pa.*

Gross, Amy & Dee Ito.

Women Talk About Breast Surgery.

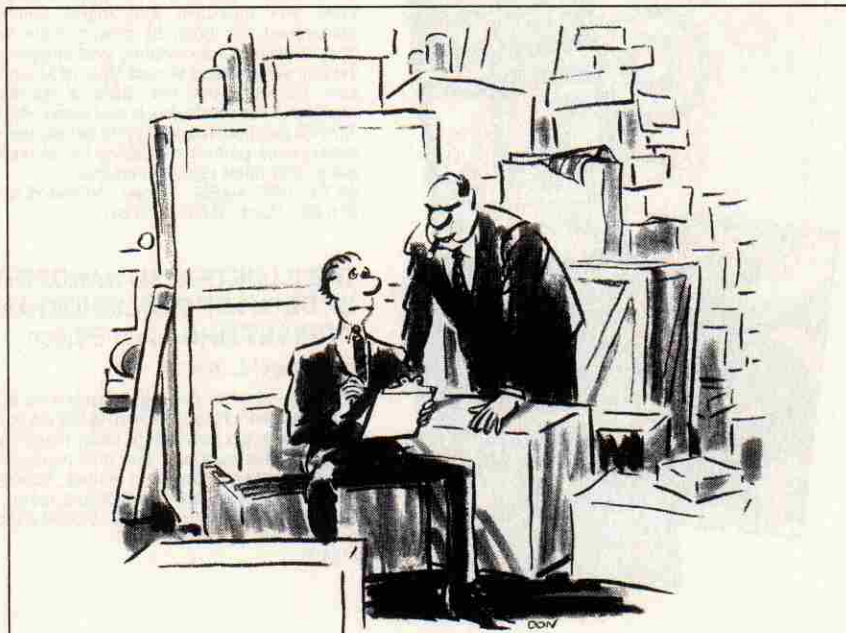
Potter, dist. by Crown. Jun. 1990. c.352p. bibliog. index. LC 89-22793. ISBN 0-517-56353-3. \$21.95. MED

This book's positive philosophy should help encourage women facing breast surgery to take an active role in determining the course of treatment. The book begins with brief descriptions of available treatments, ranging from lumpectomy to total mastectomy, including radiation, chemotherapy, and reconstructive surgery, and a glossary of terms is provided. The bulk of the book consists of interviews, reproduced in a loose question-and-answer format, with women who have had these procedures and with physicians specializing in various forms of treatment. Most libraries probably already have a number of titles on the subject, but if there is a need for further material, this book offers a unique approach and is well organized. [A complementary book is Deborah H. Kahane's *No Less a Woman: Ten Women Tell the Truth About Breast Cancer*, LJ 5/15/90, inspirational first-person stories of breast cancer survivors.—Ed.]—*Deborah Emerson, Monroe Community Coll. Lib., Rochester, N.Y.*

Gutkind, Lee. **One Children's Place: A Profile of Pediatric Medicine.**

Grove Weidenfeld. Jul. 1990. c.288p. permanent paper. ISBN 0-8021-1272-2. \$19.95. MED

The Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh is the setting of this dramatic, well-written study of political and human dynamics in a pediatric hospital. Science writer Gutkind examines the roles of health-care professionals and staff and their relationships with patients and families. He also explores the ethical dilemmas posed by the technological advances of organ transplantation, neonatal life-support, and other medical procedures, all startling reminders of the progress pediatric care has made over the last century. Central to the book, however, are the human relationships and emotions experienced on a daily basis. Gutkind



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avoids sensationalism and presents an honest, thorough, and moving portrayal of hospital life. Highly recommended for academic and public libraries.—*Mary Hemmings, Univ. of Calgary Lib., Alberta*

Neustaedter, Randall. **The Immunization Decision: A Guide for Parents.**

North Atlantic Bks. and Homeopathic Educational Service. (Family Health). 1990. c.114p. index. ISBN 1-55643-071-X. pap. \$9.95. MED

Neustaedter for the most part is against routine immunization. His book is intended to provide parents with information about childhood diseases, vaccines, and safety and legal requirements so they don't just "blindly accept the opinions of doctors." However, there are many national, state, and local laws that make some immunizations mandatory, whether parents like it or not. Still, this book helps inform parents about the subject, and public libraries should consider it for purchase as alternative, often controversial reading on this important topic.—*Barbara J. Doherty, Evanston Hosp. Lib., Ill.*

Richard, Adrienne & Joel Reiter, M.D. **Epilepsy: A New Approach.**

Prentice Hall Pr. Jul. 1990. c.288p. illus. index. LC 89-25577. ISBN 0-13-551847-4. \$17.95. MED

Epilepsy, a common chronic disorder, is characterized not only by recurrent seizures, but also by lifelong medical and psychosocial complications. People with epilepsy are not homogeneous; medically they present a disorder of infinite variety, and unfortunately they may face formidable problems. Richard, who has controlled her seizures without drugs for 15 years, and Reiter, a neurologist, suggest medical and self-help techniques that can help ease or control suffering, including biofeedback, psychotherapy, nutrition, relaxation, exercise, stress reduction, and journal keeping. The authors also rightly note that these suggestions do not replace professional health services. Recommended for consumer health collections.—*James Swanton, Albert Einstein Coll. of Medicine Lib., Bronx, New York*

Scala, James. **Eating Right for a Bad Gut: The Complete Nutritional Guide to Ileitis, Colitis, Crohn's Disease and Inflammatory Bowel Disease.**

NAL Bks. Aug. 1990. c.384p. index. ISBN 0-453-00739-2. \$18.95. MED

IBD (Inflammatory Bowel Disease) is an umbrella term for serious disorders of the large intestine, including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Nutrition is important in managing these chronic diseases, and nutritional biologist Scala's recommendations seem sensible. Unfortunately, the title—*Eating Right for a Bad Gut*—and promotional material for this book confuse IBD with the less serious and more common condition called IBS (Irritable Bowel Syndrome), which Scala does

not address at all. Such imprecise wording might lead to extreme anxiety in the unwary reader looking for information on indigestion.—*Evelyn L. Mott, Palm Beach Cty. Lib., West Palm Beach, Fla.*

Scholl, Lisette. **Hypnovision: The New Natural Way to Vision Improvement.**

Holt. Jun. 1990. c.231p. illus. LC 89-29593. ISBN 0-8050-1133-1. \$18.95. MED

Hypnotherapist Scholl's eight-week program for vision improvement combines self-hypnosis with "Bates method" self-help vision exercises. Clearly a New Ager (she believes she has regressed clients to past lives), Scholl is convinced that many can experience dramatic improvement by following her plan, although, to her credit, she avoids sensational promises of perfect vision. The program is described in detail and includes scripts which can be taped for regular use. This trendy book might capture the interest of aging baby boomers lately encountering vision problems, but it will not be a necessary acquisition, except for libraries with comprehensive alternative health collections.—*Judith Eannarino, George Washington Univ. Lib., Washington, D.C.*

Taubman, Bruce, M.D. **Curing Infant Colic: The 7-Minute Program for Soothing the Fussy Baby.**

Bantam. Jul. 1990. c.176p. ISBN 0-553-34903-1. pap. \$9.95. MED

Taubman's thesis is that infant colic syndrome is a treatable, preventable problem. He discusses causes of colic and stresses its communication basis, calling colic an "acoustical umbilical cord." Adults often misinterpret the message of an infant's crying, says Taubman, and this can create agitation and frustration for the baby. Citing case studies, Taubman provides various systematic solutions, including keeping a daily diary, to help parents respond successfully to each specific crying episode. Of other books on this topic, Sheila Kitzinger's *The Crying Baby* (LJ 4/15/89) relies more on in-depth research and interviews, and Marc Weissbluth's *Crybabies* (LJ 6/15/84) is esoteric and complex. This book provides a more useful, direct approach. Highly recommended.—*Janet M. Coggan, Univ. of Florida Lib., Gainesville*

Wisot, Arthur L., M.D. & David R. Meldrum, M.D. **New Options for Fertility: A Guide to In Vitro Fertilization and Other Assisted Reproduction Methods.**

Pharos Bks., dist. by St. Martin's. Jun. 1990. c.288p. illus. index. ISBN 0-88687-477-7. \$17.95. MED

Advances in fertility management are outlined in this clear, consumer-oriented book. Basic reproductive principles are reviewed, as are the causes and treatment of infertility. Criteria for selecting infertility clinics and programs are especially well detailed. Guidelines for prenatal care, particularly for surgical implant recipients, are

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