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Book review

Clinics in Rheumatic Diseases. Vol. 8, No. 2. **Cutaneous Lesions in the Connective Tissue Disorders.** Edited by J. P. Callen. Pp. 520. £10.75. Saunders: London. 1982.

Cutaneous manifestations are a prominent feature of rheumatic disorders, not only as manifestations of the disease which may be so typical as to be diagnostic, but also as side effects of drug therapy. This volume contains descriptive essays of the skin lesions which characterise certain systemic disorders which are seen, albeit rarely, by clinicians working in rheumatology. It represents a useful addition to the series of *Clinics in Rheumatic Diseases*. The authors are dermatologists who have been instructed to provide practical accounts of certain subjects in which they have particular expertise. The result is a slim volume which is easy reading

and deals with a broad range of subjects including lupus erythematosus, dermatomyositis, nail fold capillary abnormalities, and cutaneous reactions to rheumatological drugs. For the most part the contributions are comprehensive, well illustrated, and well referenced. Chapters on subacute cutaneous lupus erythematosus by J. N. Gilliam and R. D. Southeimer, Sweet's syndrome by K. E. Greer and P. H. Cooper, and cutaneous immunofluorescence by R. E. Jordan are particularly successful and easy to read. The chapters on eosinophilic fasciitis, which stands out from the others by its lack of illustrations, and leucocytoclastic vasculitis, which becomes bogged down in terminology, are less successful. On the whole, however, the book fulfils its brief as a practical guide for clinicians working with rheumatic disease patients.

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