Musculoskeletal disorders in patients with hyperlipidaemia


**Book review**


This book reports a symposium on heritable disorders of connective tissue held in San Diego in 1980 under the auspices of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons. Twelve of the 30 chapters describe various aspects of Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, Marfan's syndrome, and osteogenesis imperfecta. Logically these are preceded by several chapters on the molecular biology of collagen, the first of which provides a glimpse into the fascinating world of the techniques of recombinant DNA which are already being used to study collagen gene structure. The last 7 chapters are about the difficult and confusing area of the chondro-osseous dysplasias - their classification, morphology, and orthopaedic management. Slotted in between are excellent chapters on the distinctly tangential subjects of bone phosphoprotein, osteocalcin and the collagen in the contractures of Dupuytren's fasciitis and immobilised joints.

The book comes from the same publisher as McCusick's classic on *Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue*, the last edition of which came out in 1972; and the two are alike in quality and style. If not a mini-McCusick, the symposium is a useful up-date, which at £42 will doubtless grace the libraries of rheumatic, orthopaedic, and genetic units.

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