



Books Received

The receipt of these books is acknowledged, and this listing must be regarded as sufficient return for the courtesy of the sender. Books that appear to be of particular interest will be reviewed as space permits. The SAMJ does not publish unsolicited reviews.

Controlling Disease due to Helminth Infections. Edited by DWT Crompton, A Montresor, MC Nesheim and L Savioli. Pp. xv + 248. Sw.fr.35./US\$31.50. WHO. 2003. ISBN 92-4-156239-0. (Available from SAMA-HMPG. Price R245, members R175.)

WHO Report 2004. Global Tuberculosis Control. Surveillance, Planning, Financing. WHO. Pp. viii + 215. Illustrated. Sw.fr.40/US\$36. WHO. 2004. ISBN 92-4-156264-1. (Available from SAMA-HMPG. Price R245, members R145.)

ABC of Sexually Transmitted Infections. Fifth Edition. By Michael Adler, Frances Cowan, Patrick French, Helen Mitchell and John Richens. Pp. vii + 89. Illustrated. £17.95. BMJ. 2004. ISBN 0-7279-1761-7. (Available from SAMA-HMPG. Price R295, members R265.)

Color Atlas of Hematology. Practical Microscopic and Clinical Diagnosis. 2nd revised edition. By H Theml, H Diem and T Haferlach. Pp. x + 198. Illustrated. EUR(D)34.95/CHF57.80. Thieme Verlagsgruppe. 2004. ISBN 3-13-673102-6. (Available from SAMA-HMPG. Price R425, members R390.)

Principles of Medicine in Africa. 3rd Edition. Edited by: Eldryd Parry, Richard Godfrey, David Mabey and Geoffrey Gill. Pp. xx + 1442. Illustrated. £120. Cambridge University Press. 2004. ISBN 0-521-80616-X. (Available from SAMA-HMPG. Price R600, Members R540.)

Following that he specialised in general surgery at the University of Cape Town and Glasgow University hospitals. He practised as a general surgeon for 19 years in Pretoria, then was appointed senior surgeon and head of clinical care at 2 Military Hospital, Wynberg, Cape Town, which post he occupied until he retired from medical practice to farm in the Great Brak River district 11 years later.

The very active role he played in medical politics began during his Pretoria years, when he served on various committees of the then Medical Association of South Africa and later, its successor, the South African Medical Association. On retiring, he maintained his interest in the Medical Association, serving on the Branch Council of the Outeniqua Branch of the Association. He had the distinction of having been President of three branches of the Association, as well as the Association of Surgeons of South Africa.

In his later years he served on the Medical and Dental Professions Board, where he made his presence felt, *inter alia* as Chairman of the CPD Committee and of the Professional Conduct Review Committee.

My first memories of Ivan are of a young man joining us on Federal Council. He was never afraid to express his views, and while they were often contrary to those of the hierarchy, they were never expressed without his having first considered the matter under discussion thoroughly. He had a clear mind, and over the years developed a wide knowledge of health matters in this country.

He served his profession and those for whose care he was responsible, with distinction, and will be missed by all who knew him.

It was my good fortune to have had the privilege of knowing him. His passing will leave a tangible gap in the deliberations of the Outeniqua Branch Council.

We wish to extend our condolences to his family.

René D le Roex

Vivian Ivan McCusker (1938 - 2004)

Ivan McCusker died peacefully in his sleep on 5 April 2004 after a short illness, which he bore with fortitude.

He was born in Rouxville in the Free State, attended school at King Edward's in Johannesburg and graduated in 1960 at the University of the Witwatersrand. At short notice, he took over his father's general practice, from whom he developed his interest in surgery. After commencing graduate training at Wits he completed this at the University of Cape Town and obtained the FCS(SA) in 1966 and the FRCS (Edin) in 1967. After working with Sir Andrew Kay as an Oppenheimer Research Fellow in 1967 he returned to the University of Pretoria as full-time senior surgeon for 2 years. This was followed by 17 years in private surgical practice with part-time university appointments in Pretoria and 10 years as chief

IN MEMORIAM

Vivian Ivan McCusker

MB BCH (RAND), FRCS (EDIN)



Vivian Ivan McCusker died on 5 April 2004. Ivan, as he was generally known, was born in Rouxville, the only child of a general practitioner. He had the great advantage of being taught in both Afrikaans and English medium schools, matriculating at King Edward VII School in Johannesburg, following which he studied medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand. He was exposed to rural general practice when he managed his father's practice in Aliwal North for some months, while his father was ill.



surgeon and head of clinical care at 2 Military Hospital, Wynberg.

Ivan served as Chairman of the Association of Surgeons of South Africa from 1988 to 1995, he was President from 1995 to 1996 and was awarded Honorary Life Vice-Presidency.

As an elected member of the Health Professions Council of SA and the Medical and Dental Professions Board he chaired the CPD and the Preliminary Inquiry Professional Conduct Review Committees and was a member of the Education and Registration Management Committee.

He selflessly served the South African Medical Association, regionally and nationally, holding the positions of President of the Northern Transvaal and Chairman of Cape Western Branches where he also chaired the Provincial Liaison Committee for 2 years. He was a member of Federal Council and National Council for 14 years, Board of Trustees for 4 years, the Private Practice Committee for 6 years, chaired the Health Policy and Public Relations Committees and was an active member of numerous sub-committees of the board and National Council.

He was Chairman of COHSASA, having previously served as a director and consultant.

Ivan had one of the best minds I have known. He had the ability to assimilate information, remove irrelevance and bias and present it in simple, clearly understood language, sometimes with caustic wit, but without jargon or political correctness. His committees worked and his clear understanding of the agenda was due to careful preparation. He refused to associate himself with decisions he considered dishonest, immoral or politically expedient. As a surgeon and teacher he directed and encouraged his protégées, bringing out the best in them to develop into skilled surgeons who cared for their patients. He was respected and loved by his students and colleagues.

In his 'retirement' Ivan built up his farms through methods that were meticulously studied, researched and documented. He successfully bred Santa Gertruda cattle and converted hectares of wattle bush into rolling pasture with careful preservation of the indigenous flora at his farm at Groot Brak Rivier. Ivan found peace farming and loved sitting on the stoep in the evenings or at a braai with coffee laced with whisky, mulling over rugby and medical politics with his guests.

Ivan lost his first wife Mary-Anne in 1987, followed by the tragic death of his son Grant in 1990. His son Don and daughter Monique and his beloved companion and wife Antoinette survive him.

We have lost a colleague and friend endowed with wisdom, courage and integrity, whose life was guided by a strict code of conduct, concern for his patients and health care in South Africa.

Richard Tuft

Johan Rudolf van Heerden (11/06/24 - 09/07/03)

Rod van Heerden passed away peacefully on 9 July 2003 after a long illness.

He matriculated at St Andrews College in Grahamstown and enrolled as a medical student at UCT, where he obtained his medical degree in 1946. In 1948 he also completed the Diploma in Public and Community Health Medicine at UCT.

He met his wife, Jean Baird, at Groote Schuur where she was nursing and they were married in 1950.

In 1954, he settled in East London. He will be remembered for his dedication and commitment to public health care in the Border region for more than 40 years.

Initially he worked as Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital for 10 years. He was affectionately nicknamed 'Dr Jongani' (The One Who Sees All) by the nursing staff for his keen sense of observation. He was a deeply compassionate man towards his patients and staff and was a dedicated clinician, especially during the medical era of lengthy hospitalisation for tuberculosis patients. He worked tirelessly during the polio epidemic during the mid-1950s.

Rod subsequently served as Chief Medical Officer of Health of the City from 1965 to 1984. He was responsible for developing and implementing strategies for outpatient care for TB and AIDS patients long before these became standard practice.

In the wider medical field he was a Branch Councillor of the South African Medical Association for 30 years, motivated by a desire to retain contact with his colleagues in private practice. He acted as Secretary, and served three terms as President of the Border Coastal Branch. He was elected a life member of SAMA in 1989.

He served on the National Executive of SANTA and was National President of the Institution for Early Childhood Education.

He was a wonderful father and husband, a keen sportsman, a lover of music and had a delightful sense of humour. Rod is survived by his wife Jean, two sons, a daughter, and three grandchildren.

Steve van Heerden (son)

Notice to Contributors

The SAMJ endeavours to reflect the original sentiment and vital facts of submitted obituaries, letters to the editor and book reviews. We regrettably cannot give contributors foresight of edited versions prior to publication. Obituaries should preferably be submitted via email to news@samedical.org and be no longer than 400 words.