

PREFACE

In this supplement to Acta Médica Portuguesa dealing with liver disease, a number of distinguished foreign and portuguese contributors review important growing points in hepatology. These include a review of alcoholic liver disease by Professor Dame Sheila Sherlock and original contributions both clinical and immunological from Portugal. There are comprehensive chapters on alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency, the immunology and haematology of liver disease, chronic hepatitis and endocrine and metabolic aspects of liver disease. The authors deal with pathological, clinical and practical aspects of these problems. In addition, the application and surgical techniques of hepatic resection are covered by Professor Blumgart's group and amoebiasis by portuguese workers.

The contributions are well written and provide topical information which could be of value not only to hepatologists but to general clinicians.

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