Paul J. Keller

Hormonal Disorders in Gynecology

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With 89 Figures and 9 Tables

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During the past 3 years, little has been added to our funda­mental knowledge of hormonal disorders in gynecology. Diagnostically, however, there has been an almost com­plete departure from traditional chemical methods in favor of radioimmunoassay techniques. As a result, diagnostic capabilities which previously were restricted to large cen­ters have now been extended to the office and small clinic. Accordingly, the chapters dealing with these techniques have been revised and updated.
There is also new material on advances in the hormonal treatment of endometriosis and hyperprolactinemic states. Finally, the bibliography has been extensively revised to include a number of recently published books and survey articles of general interest.

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Menstrual disorders and sterility are among the most common complaints noted by both the specialist and general practitioner. For many patients they are far more distressful than is generally assumed. Recent years have brought great advances in our knowledge. While this has led to major improvements in the results of treatment, it has made it difficult for the nonspecialist to keep abreast of developments in the field of gynecologic endocrinology. It is hoped that this little book will fill a gap which is perceived by the conscientious physician. Its purpose is not to describe complex pathophysiological relationships and spectacular techniques, but rather to present a straightforward discussion of the principal hormonal disorders as well as up-to-date methods of their diagnosis and treatment. No attempt has been made to detail the many modifications of these methods, but the selected literature should enable the interested reader to obtain any additional information desired. I am grateful to my close assistants Miss C. Gerber, Miss F. Balmelli, and Miss M. Hubbuch for typing the manuscript and preparing the illustrations, to Dr. W. Koldtiz of Basel for editing the text, and to Mr. K. Münster of Springer-Verlag for his helpful cooperation.

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