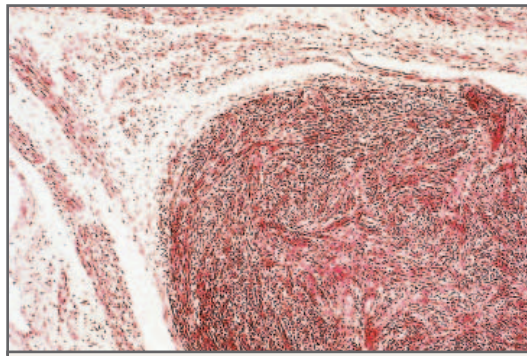


approach. I recommend these chapters as stand-alone reviews of their topics.

Intensive editing could have rescued the book from redundancies, contradictions, and tedious discussions. As it is, the book consists of a series of isolated chapters written by different authors. Far too often, the chapters begin with similar descriptions of such generalities as the incidence of uterine leiomyomata, associated symptoms, and other information that has only peripheral relevance to the chapter. Redundancy is most prevalent in the section about basic sciences, since many chapters rehash information about growth factors, genetics, and hormonal mechanisms. For example, chapter 3, "Regulation of Smooth-Muscle Cell Proliferation in Leiomyomata" and chapter 4, "Gene Expression and Hormonal Response," both provide detailed and overlapping discussions about growth factors. Two chapters' worth of material is a lot to plod through to reach the conclusion that little is known.

Presumably, the book is intended for clinicians, yet most clinicians will get lost in several of the discussions of basic science, not only because of the complexity but also because of the use of acronyms for hormones, genes, and growth factors that will be unfamiliar to most clinicians. As a result, reading some sections is like reading a foreign language. For example, "the steroid receptor coactivator (SRC) family is composed of three distinct, but structurally and functionally related members: SRC-1, also known as NCoA-1; SRC-2 (TIF2/GRIP1/NcoA-2); and SRC-3 (p/CIP/RAC3/ACTR/AIB1/TRAM-1)." The apparent assumption of the authors that the reader is familiar with molecular biology might tempt the clinician to skip the entire basic-sciences section.

Many of the clinical chapters are overly brief reviews for a book devoted to a single topic. For example, the introductory chapter on epidemiology barely discusses the racial and age-related incidences of uterine fibroids. Fortunately, more epidemiologic details are buried in later sections of the book. The chapter on sonography eloquently describes advantages of Doppler and color-flow imaging, but the chapter on magnetic resonance imaging has more information about routine ultrasonography than does the chapter on ultrasound. The chapter on myomectomy is a superficial overview of abdominal and laparoscopic myomectomy that leaves the reader no better prepared to perform these complex procedures.



Photomicrograph of a Uterine Myoma.

Wellcome Photo Library

A chapter on cost-effectiveness is mostly repetitive and concludes with the statement that "it is still difficult to draw firm conclusions" about cost-effective treatments. A chapter about a new technology — laparoscopic occlusion of uterine vessels — is 10 pages long, but only 2 pages are devoted to the technique. Finally, the chapter on uterine-artery embolization is well written, but at four pages, including figures, it is far too brief.

Future editions of *Uterine Leiomyomata* will benefit greatly from more influential editing that provides a stylistic uniformity, deletes redundancies, expands deficient areas, and removes inconsistencies that are too common in this edition. At its best, this could be an essential reference book for all providers of health care for women. Unfortunately, the bright spots are too few to be able to recommend this edition.

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## CORRECTIONS

The Potential of Human Papillomavirus Vaccines (March 16, 2006;354:1109-12). On page 1109, in the middle column, lines 12 through 16 should have read, "The two investigational HPV vaccines are based in part on technology developed at the National Institutes of Health," rather than "The two investigational HPV vaccines are based on technology invented at the National Institutes of Health," as printed.

Cost-Effectiveness of Cervical-Cancer Screening in Developing Countries (April 6, 2006;354:1535-6). In the letter by Goldie, on page 1536, lines 3 through 6 should have read, "The study that Dr. Suba refers to was conducted in the United States in a clinical-practice setting in close proximity to a laboratory with access to courier service," rather than "Our study was conducted . . . ," as printed. We regret the error.

Homocysteine Lowering with Folic Acid and B Vitamins in Vascular Disease (April 13, 2006;354:1567-77). On page 1573, in Figure 2, the number of patients at the start of the study in the placebo group should have read 2764, and the number of patients in the treatment group should have read 2758, rather than the reverse, as printed. The article has been corrected on the Journal's Web site at [www.nejm.org](http://www.nejm.org).

## NOTICES

*Notices submitted for publication should contain a mailing address and telephone number of a contact person or department. We regret that we are unable to publish all notices received. Notices also appear on the Journal's Web site ([www.nejm.org/meetings](http://www.nejm.org/meetings)). The listings can be viewed in their entirety or searched by location, month, or key word.*

### GENOMICS FOR HEALTH

The conference will be held in Vienna, Oct. 15–18. Deadline for submission of abstracts is Aug. 21. Deadline for early registration is Sept. 1.

Contact PROCON Conference, Incentive & Event Management GmbH, Frau Carina AuBerlechner-Satke, Odoakergasse 34-36/3, 1160 Wien, Austria; or call (43) 1 486 40 40 45; or fax (43) 1 486 40 40 46; or e-mail [office@proconference.at](mailto:office@proconference.at); or see <http://www.proconference.at>.

### AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY

The following meetings will be held: “2006 AAN Fall Conference” (Washington, D.C., Oct. 13–15) and “2007 Annual Meeting” (Boston, April 28–May 5).

Contact American Academy of Neurology, 1080 Montreal Ave., Saint Paul, MN 55116; or call (800) 879-1960 (national) or (651) 695-2717 (Minnesota); or e-mail [memberservices@aan.com](mailto:memberservices@aan.com); or see <http://www.aan.com>.

### NORTH CAROLINA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH EDUCATION & RESEARCH CENTER

The following courses will be offered in Chapel Hill, N.C., unless otherwise indicated: “Asbestos Operations and Maintenance” (Sept. 11 and 12); “Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene (CIH) Review Course” (Sept. 18–22); “Building Inspection and Management Planning for Asbestos” (Oct. 2–6; refresher course, Sept. 7); “Supervising Asbestos Abatement Projects” (Oct. 23–27; refresher course, Sept. 6); and “Certified Safety Professional (CSP) Review Course” (Nov. 13–17).

Contact Occupational Safety and Health Education & Research Center, University of North Carolina, 3300 Hwy. 54 W., Chapel Hill, NC 27516-8264; or call (888) 235-3320 (national) or (919) 962-2101 (North Carolina); or fax (919) 966-7579; or see <http://www.sph.unc.edu/osherc/>; or e-mail [oshercww@sph.unc.edu](mailto:oshercww@sph.unc.edu).

### MONTEFIORE MEDICAL CENTER—ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

The following courses will be offered: “Clinical Neurology for Psychiatrists” (Los Angeles, Sept. 8–10; New York, Oct. 6–8) and “Psychiatry for Psychiatrists: The Pre-Test” (Los Angeles, Sept. 11 and 12; New York, Oct. 9 and 10).

Contact Montefiore Medical Center, The University Hospital for the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Jerome L. and Dawn Greene Medical Arts Pavilion, 3400 Bainbridge Ave., 5th Fl., Bronx, NY 10467-2490; or see <http://www.cnfp.org>.

### SINGAPORE GENERAL HOSPITAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL INSTITUTE

The following conferences will be held in Singapore: “Professionalism in Medicine” (Aug. 22–25) and “Regional Conference on Cost-Effective Healthcare” (Oct. 28–31).

Contact Singapore General Hospital Postgraduate Medical Institute, Blk 6 Level 1, Outram Rd., Singapore 169608; or call (65) 6321 4078; or fax (65) 6226 0356.

### 4TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL NEURO-ONCOLOGY UPDATE

The meeting will be held in Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 24 and 25. It is sponsored by Methodist University Hospital–Neuroscience Institute, Johns Hopkins University, and the Carlo Besta International Neurological Institute.

Contact Katie Rapp, Methodist Healthcare, 1211 Union Ave., Suite 900, Memphis, TN 38104; or call (901) 516-0609; or see <http://neuro.methodisthealth.org>; or e-mail [rappk@methodisthealth.org](mailto:rappk@methodisthealth.org).

### CYTOKINES 2006

The “6th Joint Meeting” of the International Cytokine Society, the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research, and the European Cytokine Society will be held in Vienna, Aug. 27–31.

Contact Ärztezentrale Med.Info, Helferstorferstrasse 4, 1014 Vienna, Austria; or call (43) 1-531 16-39; or fax (43) 1-531 16-61; or e-mail [azmedinfo@media.co.at](mailto:azmedinfo@media.co.at).

### ALLERGY AND ASTHMA RESOURCE FOR CHOOSING BEST HEALTH PLANS

The American College of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology has developed “A Consumer Checklist for Allergy and Asthma Benefits” to advise consumers about the features to look for when they enroll in a managed care or insurance program.

The checklist is available online at <http://www.acai.org>; or by calling the American College of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology at (800) 842-7777.

### AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

The “60th Annual Fall Conference and Scientific Sessions of the Council for High Blood Pressure Research in association with the Council on the Kidney in Cardiovascular Disease” will be held in San Antonio, Tex., Oct. 4–7.

Contact American Heart Association, National Center, 7272 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231; or call (214) 706-1812 or (214) 706-1806 or (214) 706-1773, respectively.

### MEDICAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA

The following meetings will be held: “Neonatology — the Sick Newborn” (Savannah, Ga., Sept. 29–Oct. 1); “Masters of Otolaryngology Annual Symposium” (Augusta, Ga., Oct. 19–21); and “Primary Care Issues in Endocrine, Renal and Metabolic Diseases” (Young Harris, Ga., Oct. 20–22).

Contact Continuing Education, Medical College of Georgia, 919 15th St., Augusta, GA 30912; or call (800) 221-6436 (national) or (706) 721-3967 (Georgia); or fax (706) 721-4642.

### STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The following courses will be offered: “Pediatric Otolaryngology Update” (Palo Alto, Calif., Oct. 27 and 28); “Prevention and Management of Childhood Obesity” (Big Island, Hawaii, Nov. 12); and “Popular Pediatric Clinical Topics” (Big Island, Hawaii, Nov. 13–15).

Contact Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford CME Department, 725 Welch Rd., MC 5517, Palo Alto, CA 94040; or call (650) 497-8554; or e-mail [lpchcme@lpch.org](mailto:lpchcme@lpch.org); or see <http://www.cme.lpch.org>.