



Splicing human genes into bacteria enables the bacteria to manufacture human proteins.

and sang songs like a 4-year-old.

Physicians do not know what causes normal variant short stature, but one possibility is that children with this condition are unable to make use of their own growth hormone, Rosenfeld says. Early trials suggest that, for some as-yet-unknown reason, supplemental injections of recombinant growth hormone do foster growth in these children. But these studies have been in progress for only about a year, and it will take more time to determine the long-term effects, he says.

Recombinant growth hormone, like pituitary growth hormone before it, has attractive properties that make some people want to use it needlessly. And body builders, who know the hormone will promote muscle growth, are not the only ones inclined to abuse it, says Rosenfeld. Some parents ask for the hormone to make sure their normal children grow tall — in spite of the cost of treat-

ment (\$10,000 to \$25,000 a year) and in spite of the risk of diabetes, one of the potential side effects of growth hormone.

"I've had families come to me and say, 'I don't care how much it costs. I don't care about side effects,'" he says. "We literally are turning away families with this attitude."

As medical researchers have gained more experience with recombinant medicines, they have learned to anticipate side effects, and not to expect miracles. No longer do researchers expect to clone "cures." Instead, they are learning — one by one — the complex ways in which individual human proteins behave and how to use these proteins to make modest, but significant, inroads against disease. □

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The Body — Anthony Smith. Originally published in 1968, this examination of the body, from skeleton to skin, has been revised and updated. The book is organized around human reproduction and development, discussing pregnancy, childbirth, heredity and the body's growth through puberty to maturity, old age and death. Organs and bodily systems are covered in this readable book on physiology and anatomy for the general reader. This revised edition was published in hardback in 1986 by Viking Press. Penguin, 1987, 548 p., paper, \$7.95.

Cranium Crackers — Abbie Salny. A collection of 230 challenging mathematics, word and logic puzzles that are arranged from the least to the most difficult. The solutions are included at the end of the book. Dodd, 1986, 127 p., illus., paper, \$6.95.

Human Culture: A Moment in Evolution — Theodosius Dobzhansky and Ernest Boesiger, edited and completed by Bruce Wallace. Examines the logic of evolution and the status of the human species with respect to evolutionary change. Presents a unique discussion of biological and cultural evolution and the various relationships between the two. Dobzhansky and Boesiger died in 1975 before completing the manuscript for this book. Wallace, a geneticist, completed and edited the book. Originally published in hardback in 1983. Columbia U Pr, 1986, 175 p., illus by Hans Erni, paper, \$12.50.

A Leg to Stand on — Oliver Sacks. The author, a neurologist, tells of his experience as a patient after a leg injury sustained in a fall. Many themes are interwoven here, says Sacks in the preface, including the neuropsychological and existential phenomena associated with his injury and recovery, being a patient and returning to the outside world, the complexities of the doctor-patient relationship, a critique of current neurology and a vision of neurology of the future. Originally published in hardback in 1984 by Summit Books. Har-Row, 1987, 222 p., paper, \$7.95.

The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat: And Other Clinical Tales — Oliver Sacks. A collection of 24 case studies about seemingly untreatable patients with brain dysfunctions. In each of these readable case studies, Sacks looks for the person behind the sickness. He searches for the ways in which people compensate for loss, excess and aberration, and how the thread of identity can emerge unbroken despite severe handicaps. Originally published in hardback in 1985 by Summit Books. Har-Row, 1987, 243 p., illus., paper, \$7.95.

The Sea Turtle: So Excellent a Fish — Archie Carr. First published in 1967, this account of sea turtles by one of the world's experts on marine turtles has been updated with an epilogue that highlights recent developments in this field. New photographs and maps also have been added to this revised edition. The revised edition was published in hardback by Scribner in 1984 as *So Excellent a Fish*. U of Texas Pr, 1986, 280 p., illus., paper, \$9.95.