

news THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT DALLAS

Southwestern medical school - graduate school of biomedical sciences - school of allied health sciences

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Contact: Ann Williams

*****New book by UTHSCD professors treats
pregnancy as "nature's transplant."

Dr. Alan E. Beer and Dr. Rupert E. Billingham's The Immunobiology of Mammalian Reproduction was published this summer by Prentice-Hall, Inc., as part of the Prentice-Hall Foundations of Immunology Series.

Dr. Beer is professor of cell biology and associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and Dr. Billingham is professor and chairman of the Department of Cell Biology at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas.

Their book is the first of its kind, treating pregnancy as a graft-host relationship. Most of the material included has not been published in book-form before.

Designed to be used as both text book and reference book, it represents a synthesis of basic biology and medical and clinical science. Dr. Beer said the work will have greatest impact in obstetrics and pediatrics. It details the very important immunological relationship between the mother and the fetus and between the mother and her offspring and the clinical applications in disease and in disease prevention.

Assuming the reader has no knowledge of immunology, the authors begin with the basic concepts and build on those.

After beginning their own investigation of the immunology of pregnancy in hope of finding ways of preventing rejection in organ transplantation, Dr. Beer and Dr. Billingham have helped to open a new field of study.

Dr. Beer holds an M.D. from The University of Indiana School of Medicine, and Dr. Billingham received his D. Phil. and D. Sc. in zoology from The University of Oxford.

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