The broad spectrum of knowledge and information offered in this handbook will make it invaluable for all multidisciplinary workers, not just community nurses.

It covers in a clear and easily digestible form the foundations of infection control and the causative agents of infection. It gives practical advice on dealing with cases and contacts. A wide range of questions are answered, from the length of time a specimen can be kept to what came first – chicken pox or shingles?

The text is presented in a Q&A format, with a clear index and logical sequence. It is a mine of information.

Harsh Duggal, Amanda Beaumont and Helen Jenkinson | Whurr | £19.99 | 134pp
ISBN: 1 86156 255 1
Reviewed by Sue Shaw, staff nurse, Wiltshire

The best of the week’s health-related TV and radio

PICK OF THE WEEK

COMING OUT OF THE TUNNEL

Thursday July 6, BBC Radio 4, 8-8.30pm

On July 7 last year, Ben, 33, was caught in one of the London bomb blasts. Deeply traumatised by the experience, he was forced weeks later to give up his job because of his terror of travelling on the underground. John, a teacher in his fifties, pictured outside Edgware Road station, cradled the injured and dying when the Circle Line carriage he was travelling in was blown up. Unable to come to terms with one man’s death, he was on the verge of a breakdown. This is a gripping exploration of how people cope with trauma.

MONDAY JULY 3

City Hospital Summer Health
BBC 1, 10-11am, Mon-Fri
Ainsley Harriott, Andi Peters and Louise Minchin give advice on the seasonal problems of allergies and insects.

Real Story

BBC 1, 7.30-8pm
Fiona Bruce meets overweight teenagers who are desperate to bring their weight under control.

MINDSHOCK – TRANSPLANTING MEMORIES?

Channel 4, 10-11.05pm
Are sleepwalkers responsible for their actions? Tonight’s programme raises questions about the power of the subconscious and our ability to keep it under control. Featuring interviews with sleepwalkers and experts on the condition, this documentary examines parasomnia, a disorder in which sleepers have no recollection of their actions.

WEDNESDAY JULY 5

My Baby – A Life Worth Living?
BBC 4, 11.45pm-00.45am
Candida Harris explores the emotional and practical dilemmas faced by prospective parents with a serious inheritable condition.

THURSDAY JULY 6

Coming Out of the Tunnel
BBC Radio 4, 8-8.30pm
See Pick of the Week

Analysis

BBC Radio 4, 8.30-9pm
The health service is in crisis and some would say the government’s reforms are making matters worse. Bob Tyrrell asks whether the perception of meltdown is a sign that the reforms are starting to work.

Who Gets the Heart?

Channel 4, 10-11.05pm
Ahead of National Transplant week (July 9-16), Channel 4 broadcasts the second of two films about waiting for a new heart. Tonight’s programme follows Andy and Sharon – how do they and their families cope, waiting for a phone call that could save their lives?

Compiled by nurse and lecturer Margaret Paul

NURSING STANDARD