

Book Reviews

Cell Adhesion and Human Disease (1995)

J. Marsh and J. A. Goode (eds)

Ciba Foundation Symposium 189

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Cell Adhesion and Human Disease constitutes the published proceedings of a symposium held in London in May 1994. The book obviously has a heavy clinical bias, but this does not preclude the analysis and discussion of the fundamental molecular processes by which cell adhesion, or lack of it, influence disease processes. This is, I think, its strength. Many of the articles deal with the molecular basis for cell adhesion molecule specificity and activity by using appropriate models to dissect the important elements. For example, P-selectin and E-selectin transgenic knock out mice are described which highlight the importance of endothelial cells reacting to vascular injury by using these adhesion molecules to recruit leukocytes to the site of damage.

In addition to highlighting advances in our understanding of the physiological and pathological importance of certain adhesion molecules, this volume describes progress that is being made in the therapeutic application of this knowledge. A major clinical advance in the treatment of ischaemia/reperfusion injury may develop from the finding that functional block-

ade of the leukocyte β_2 integrin complex in several types of ischaemia/reperfusion (in animal models) prevents most of the injury. There are also a number of articles on various aspects of the role of adhesion molecules in tumour biology. It is interesting to see that some adhesion molecules promote metastasis, while others suppress it.

There is, however, little here of direct relevance to those interested in the adhesion of cells to bone and cartilage. In some ways this is not surprising since most clinical work on these molecules is directed at blood cells and their targets, where many adhesion molecules were first described. However, there are many questions of clinical relevance to skeletal diseases where an assessment of the role of integrins and the like would be of great value. This book does not set out to provide in depth reviews of all aspects of adhesion molecule biology and as long as it is seen of general, rather than specific interest to researchers in the skeletal field, it is worth adding to a library's stock.

T. J. McCann

Introduction to Orthodontics, 2nd edition (1995)

Birgit Thilander and Olli Rönning

Forlagshuset Gothia, Stockholm

Price: SEK 550,00

ISBN: 91-7205-004-004

Just 10 years ago the first edition of this excellent little book was published and made a valuable contribution to the orthodontic literature because of its clarity and usefulness. The second edition has been rewritten and many of the chapters have new authors and their content has been brought up-to-date. The chapter on

the development of the dentition has been completely rewritten by Sinikka Pirinen and Irma Thesleff. It is a clear, comprehensive description of the development of the dentition and its clinical implications.

The chapter on classification and aetiology of malocclusion has been rewritten with Carl