

## Facial Clefts and Craniosynostosis. Principles and Management (1996)

Editors: Timothy A. Turvey, Katherine W. L. Vig and Raymond T. Fonseca.

Publisher: W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia

Price: £143.00

ISBN: 0-7216-3783-3

This volume of 782 pages, 30 chapters and more than 630 illustrations, covers extensively the topic of Facial Clefts and Craniosynostosis, in four major parts: I. Causes and Consequences, II. Diagnosis and Treatment Planning, III. Surgical Management and IV. Outcome Assessment. Every one of these four parts comprises several chapters, contributed, in total, by 49 authors, dealing with the different aspects of the main topic.

The strengths of this book are its well documented and clear text, the excellent illustrations, the extensive and very well selected references, as well as the broadness and the variety of the clinical cases presented. The chapters dealing with the early orthodontic management of clefts, all the surgical procedures needed for the total and final management of the skeletal and

soft tissue discrepancies, met with in simple and most complex cases, are thorough and very instructive.

In spite of the great number of contributors, the quality of every chapter is consistently high. However there are some differences in the methodology of the list of references i.e. in some chapters, the alphabetical order is followed, while in others the sequence of appearance in the text is followed, and this can cause some confusion.

In conclusion, this book is a very significant contribution to the discipline of cranio-facial dysmorphogenesis and a necessary addition to the library of all those who offer their services to patients belonging to this population.

Meropi N. Spyropoulos

## The Clinical Handling of Dental Materials (1995)

Authors: B. G. N. Smith, P. S. Wright, D. Brown

Publisher: Wright, Oxford

Price: £30.00

ISBN: 0-7236-1023-1

This second edition of the book is divided into four distinct sections. The first section discusses general material properties, whilst the second concerns each discipline within dentistry and covers not only the materials used, but also how the material properties influence clinical techniques. As perhaps might be expected of these three authors, the book has a heavy restorative bias. However, the style is such that it gives a refreshing insight into this aspect of dentistry for non-restorative dentists, in particular how techniques eg. aspects of post and core fabrication, have changed as a result of a more scientific approach to dental materials. There is however, a degree of repetition into the properties and handling of impression materials in some of the chapters.

The chapter on orthodontic materials gives a

useful introduction into the range and properties of materials for those embarking upon their postgraduate training. Many commonly used terms are usefully defined, such as stress and strain, but unfortunately less commonly used terms, such as flexural rigidity, are discussed but not explained. There is also some confusion of terms, namely hysteresis and plasticisation in relation to elastomers.

Section 4 of the book gives a concise summary of the types of materials covering presentation, manipulation, properties and applications, as well as commonly available brands, and will be useful for any member of the dental team. This is followed by a trade index which can be used as a quick reference to match a trade name with a material type.

A. J. Ireland