

Book Reviews

Contemporary Cephalometric Radiography

Author: Kunihiro Miyashita

Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Co. Limited, New Malden, Surrey, UK

Price: £150.00

ISBN: 4-87417-517-1

This unique book is an English edition of its Japanese counterpart. Essentially it is an atlas of radiological anatomy seen on standardized views, namely true lateral cephalometric skull, cephalometric postero-anterior (PA) skull and submentovertex (SMV) projection. The materials are selected from the author's own collection of over 200 human skulls of various ages and races. The radiographs and the tracings are shown side by side for clarity. To further enhance understanding of radiographic anatomy and the origin of the various superimposed bony shadows, there are numerous high-quality photographs, radiographs and tracings of individual whole bones and of serial sections of skulls. All these photographs and radiographs are accurately taken with the bone(s) in the three standardized projections. The meticulous attention to detail is most admirable.

There are three major sections describing the procedure for tracing all the landmarks on the three standardized cephalometric views. They make rather dry reading but, nonetheless, the expertise of the author is clearly communicated.

He painstakingly points out any pitfalls and makes useful expert observations, e.g. the nasion on a lateral cephalogram is more easily identified after the eyelids have been drawn in. The occasional analogy is also thrown in, e.g. 'shape and size of the zygomatic arch are similar to those of a soy bean'.

Of particular value are the sections in the Appendix showing radiographic images and tracings of a symmetrical skull and an asymmetrical skull, with and without head rotation. Metal markers fixed to the skulls demonstrate the exact position of various landmarks. The Glossary contains definitions of all cephalometric landmarks and gives a reference for each. Regrettably, there is no index.

The high quality of the radiographs and the accuracy of the tracings and photographic projections, coupled with detailed procedures for tracing, make this book a valuable reference book for clinicians, teachers and researchers who use cephalometric techniques in their work.

Suk Y. Ng

Understanding Orthodontics (1997)

Harold T. Perry and David P. Forbes

Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Co. Limited, Malden, Surrey, UK

Price: £22.00

ISBN: 0-86715-315-6

The book is well presented with good illustrations, making the subject easy to understand for the parent and patient. There is an extremely comprehensive overview of what orthodontics is, the aetiology and significance of a 'bad bite', types of treatment available, their objectives and

timing, care of appliances and the role of retainers. The book concludes with a useful section on commonly asked questions and their answers.

Orthodontic treatment for any patient involves many concepts which can be difficult to