Book Reviews

Brain and Oral Function: Oral Motor Function and Dysfunction (1995)

T. Morimoto T. Matsuya and K. Takada (Eds)

Publisher: Elsevier Science, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Price: Dfl. 435.00 US\$ 272.00

ISBN 0-444-81963-0

This book contains an elaborate selection of papers from the Osaka International Oral Physiology Symposium on Brain and Oral Function held in 1994.

All papers presented at this symposium focus on orofacial function and dysfunction from a neuroscience viewpoint and can be divided into seven subsections: (1) histochemistry and contractile properties of the muscle fibres of the masticatory muscles; (2) periodontal sensation and its contribution to the control of the masticatory muscles; (3) central connections of muscle spindle afferents and the reflex control of masticatory force; (4) central rhythm generator of jaw and tongue movements; (5) physiological and pharmacological properties of the synapse between premotor neurons and the trigeminal motorneurons; (6) the cerebral mechanism of jaw and tongue movements; and (7) abnormal rhythmic oral movements and clinical evaluation of craniofacial motor dysfunctions.

This book is especially recommended for those performing basic reasearch in the physiological mechanisms of jaw movements and provides insight into the control of the human masticatory muscles and jaw movements. For instance, the role of the human periodontal mechanoreceptors, electromyogram—force relationships, and right—left asymmetries in masticatory muscle activity are discussed.

For clinicians relevant papers can be found in the section dealing with temporomandibular joint and craniomandibular disorder that focus on patients with chronic orofacial pain, and the section about posture and electromyography that partly deals with sleep apnoea syndrome. The contributions about the relationships between facial morphology and jaw muscle function and oral sensation and bite force may also be of interest to orthodontists.

P. H. van Spronsen

Orofacial Pain: Guidelines for Assessment, Diagnosis, and Management (1996)

Jeffrey P. Okeson (Ed.)

Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Co., Inc., Chicago, USA

Price: £22.00

ISBN: 0-86715-312-1

This book is the result of the continuing efforts of the American Academy of Orofacial Pain to promote excellence in education, research, and patient care in the field of orofacial pain and associated disorders. Originally a position paper describing the state of the art in the diagnosis and management of TMD (temporomandibular disorders), it has evolved in the subsequent 15

years to its newest form, a document reflecting the literature in the broader area of orofacial pain. For the current edition, the Academy decided to include sections on other pain disorders of the head and neck that are important to the orofacial pain clinician.

The book begins with an introduction to orofacial pain, including a very brief section on