

planning and techniques important for the successful integrated orthodontic surgical correction of anomalies. The value of the book lies in a very clear text, on its excellent illustrations (over 1200) and on the well-documented clinical cases presented. This book, expertly revised and updated since the first

edition, appears to be useful both to the surgeon and to the orthodontist. It would also seem to be a welcome and necessary addition to the library of all professionals dealing with craniofacial anomalies, to improve the quality of care delivered to individuals affected by these deformities.

Francesca Miotti

Practical Dentofacial Orthopedics (1996)

Frans P. G. M. van der Linden

Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Co. Ltd, London

Price: £80.00

ISBN: 1-85097-041-6

Volume 5 in van der Linden's series on the development of the dentition and dentofacial orthopaedics is an unusual orthodontic book. The 696 pages are divided into 40 chapters, each of which is, quite simply, a commented case report. The chapters consist of 2–5 pages of commentary and 10–15 pages of illustrations, and the descriptions are unusual in that, besides documenting the condition before and after treatment, they also do so for the condition 10–20 years after treatment. The chapters are arranged in increasing order of the complexity of the treatment, and there are drawings and explanations of various—mainly removable—appliances in the order in which they first appear in a case. The commentary on each patient starts with a brief clinical diagnosis without cephalometric evaluation or maturity assessment, but is otherwise presented in a fluent, rather expansive, lecturing style. The illustrative material consists mainly of facial photographs and photographs of study models from the various stages. For

some patients, though, there are cephalometric growth tracings of the changes due to treatment and growth. Most of the treatments were successful, but some were failures, particularly where the facial growth deviated from the average pattern. The quality of the illustrations is reasonable, but the presentation is somewhat flawed by growth tracing superimpositions which are not in agreement with basic knowledge of the surface modelling of the craniofacial skeletal structures.

In general, the book is remarkable for the extensive photographic illustration of the age changes of the face in the period 10–20 years after treatment was completed. This gives the reader a real visual impression of the gradual lowering of the facial soft tissues in relation to the skeletal base and the dental arches. The author deserves credit for sharing with us this unique longitudinal photographic material on facial development.

Beni Solow

An Introduction to Orthodontics (1996)

Laura Mitchell

Publisher: Oxford University Press, Oxford

Price: £35.00

ISBN: 0-19-262431-8

This new book by a well-respected author is, as the cover note describes, a good introduction to the current thinking and practice of ortho-

dontics. The 21 chapters begin with the Rationale for Orthodontic Treatment and a useful discussion on risk and cost benefit, two

factors which are coming more to the fore in today's Health Service.

Throughout, the book follows a logical sequence through aetiology, the malocclusions and on to the various treatment approaches. Each chapter is beautifully illustrated with numerous colour photographs and there is a very good use of summary tables and bullet lists. In some respects for the undergraduate student for whom list regurgitation at examinations may be obligatory, a number of the lists appear to be incomplete. However, even when such tables are incomplete, the essential information can be

found elsewhere in the book. The author writes in an easy to follow style and further enhances the readability by précis papers and books in the reading list. In some instances it would have been helpful to link the chapter text more directly to the reading list by the use of superscripted markers, but this is a very minor criticism.

On the whole this is a very readable book, useful to both undergraduate students and the interested general dental practitioner alike.

A. J. Ireland

Prevention of Oral Diseases (3rd edn 1996)

J. J. Murray (Ed.)

Publisher: Oxford University Press, Oxford

Price: £32.50

ISBN: 0-19-262457

This excellent book assesses the impact of prevention on the main oral diseases. The third edition of this well-known text has been expanded to include chapters on the prevention of dental trauma, diseases of the oral mucosa, prevention in the ageing dentition, and the prevention of malocclusion. Several chapters have also been included to cover the topics of prevention from an international perspective and the oral health needs of the 21st century.

The editor has assembled a distinguished cast of British authors who have contributed to the 20 chapters. The book provides a concise analysis of the scientific evidence underpinning current approaches to the prevention of oral disease. Considering the range of topics covered, this is a remarkably slim volume presented in a clear and very readable way. I particularly liked the bullet-list summary placed at the end of each chapter.

The chapter on the prevention of malocclusion provides a refreshingly sensible

appraisal of the relative merits of early or interceptive orthodontic treatment. Importantly, for a textbook which is aimed at a wide readership, attention is drawn to the fact that early orthodontic treatment does not always lead to less treatment.

Orthodontists are acutely aware of the role their appliances can often play in precipitating enamel damage and periodontal disease. The chapters covering the prevention of periodontal disease, and the impact of fluoride, diet, and oral cleanliness on dental caries are therefore likely to be of particular interest. However, in a world where it can sometimes be difficult to keep abreast of the research evidence within one's own specialty, the other chapters in this book provide a useful update on the current issues exercising other dental specialists.

This book would sit comfortably in any orthodontic library, and the relatively low price means that it is extremely good value for money.

Donald Burden