

## Book Reviews

### Embryos, Genes and Birth Defects (1997)

Peter Thorogood (Ed.)

Publisher: John Wiley and Sons Limited, Chichester, Sussex, UK

Price: £39.95 (softback), £75.00 (hardback)

ISBN: 0-471-95565-5

The aim of this book is to 'bridge the gap between the medical disciplines of embryology and dysmorphology with current advances in cell, molecular and developmental biology research'. The book is made up of 15 chapters, each written by a different author, and can be arbitrarily divided into two sections. The first six chapters cover a number of modern research strategies, including methods of mapping syndromes to genes, positional cloning and analysis of loci implicated in birth defects, transgenic technology, chemical teratogens and the use of databases in dysmorphology. The second part of the book consists of nine chapters, each devoted to one organ system. The systems chosen (limb, gut and enteric system, head/face, heart, skin,

vertebral column, kidneys and teeth) are those where significant research progress has been made recently. Each chapter follows a common pattern and includes sections on normal and abnormal development, an agenda for the future and a comprehensive bibliography. Of particular interest to orthodontists will be the chapters on the head/face and teeth written by Peter Thorogood and Irma Thesleff respectively.

Does book fulfil the aims of the editor? Yes, and in a very readable and comprehensive style. This book is highly recommended to all those with an interest in birth defects, both from a clinical and research perspective.

Robert D. Evans

### Orthodontic Management of the Dentition with the Preadjusted Appliance (1997)

John C. Bennett and Richard P. McLaughlin

Publisher: Isis Medical Media, Oxford, UK

Price: £159.00

ISBN: 1-899066-91-8

This book is a sequel to the authors' previous text, *Orthodontic Treatment Mechanics and the Preadjusted Appliance*, but otherwise is an entirely new and much expanded work laid out in a completely different format. As outlined in the preface, the authors felt that a different approach was required to present their considerable clinical experience. This was resolved in the innovative way of considering each tooth within the dentition and giving specific attention to the management of clinical implications arising from each tooth type in turn.

The book consists of 10 chapters and is

illustrated in detail with 12 case reports and 19 treatment sequences providing over 1000 colour pictures and on top of this several hundred line drawings within its 380 large-format pages. Each chapter starts with its own index and has an accompanying list of references.

The introductory chapter on the management of the dentition sets the overall scene, discussing the concept of the ideal, case diagnosis and treatment planning in terms of space requirements.

Chapter 2 describes the subtleties required in bracket positioning and explains the latest recommendations in a chart form for slight

changes in the vertical placement of brackets on certain teeth and how to achieve this clinically using bracket placement gauges. Such emphasis is attached to this concept that it is considered that the best results will be obtained only by those who master the required accuracy in bracket positioning.

The subsequent chapters then deal with the management of specific teeth, starting with the incisors and working posteriorly, with one chapter in addition given over to the extraction of upper premolars.

Each chapter contains a wealth of information, includes a concise case for the updated bracket prescription in each tooth, and then focuses on the important areas in the management of the dentition arising from the respective tooth in question. The authors set out to blend research evidence with clinical experience and this style appears to work well. The chapter on the incisors is the longest and includes an insight into the use of the Bolton analysis for tooth size discrepancy. That on the first premolars includes more wide-ranging topics such as discussions on the extraction versus non-extraction controversy and its associated gnathological aspects, the TMD issues of recent years, the question of flattening of the facial profile and that of posterior condylar displacement as well as the required treatment mechanics. The last two chapters on second and third molars include information from the work of Dr Margaret Richardson on the issues of posterior crowding and its implications relative to the dentition overall.

Each chapter is extensively illustrated with colour pictures and clear line diagrams. The case reports and treatment sequences present excel-

lent sequential clinical records including copies of radiographs. The case reports are most comprehensive and consist of facial and intra-oral views before, during and after treatment, as well as the respective computer-generated cephalometric outlines, and have just the right balance of descriptive caption. This illustrative material is quite wide ranging across the more frequent types of malocclusion encountered and includes examples of extraction and non-extraction situations, missing anterior teeth relative to restorative procedures, ectopic incisors and canines, as well as treatments combined with removable and functional appliances, but as stated its scope is not intended to cover all the many diverse aspects of orthodontics.

Although the authors reinforce their latest recommendations on bracket specifications with clarity throughout these chapters, some complementary discussion on the authors' experience and current practice in relation to the newer forms of archwire and their seemingly burgeoning array of dimensions and force levels could have been included to guide the reader through this particular maze.

Overall this book is very well laid out and succeeds in its new style, producing a text that is both easy to follow and read. The established clinician and postgraduate alike would find it extremely useful, although because the book is a high-quality production it is considerably expensive. This could limit its availability, but when this cost is reviewed against that generally associated with postgraduate courses nowadays it starts to appear more reasonable.

D. A. Slattery

## Bioceramics, Volume 9

T. Kokubo, T. Nakamura and F. Miyaji (Eds)

Publisher: Elsevier Science Limited, Oxford, UK

Price: Dfl 1390, US\$240

ISBN: 0-08-042684-0

This book, which is a compilation of papers presented at the 9th International Symposium on Ceramics in Medicine in Otsu, Japan, covers a broad area of ceramics application in medicine.

The book contains eight invited papers and 120 contributed papers, so in that sense there is bound to be something of interest to everybody. However, having regard to the cost, it is