

## Book reviews

### Applied Survival Analysis: Regression Modelling of Time to Event Data (1999)

Authors: David W. Hosmer Jr & Stanley Lemeshow

Publisher: John Wiley & Sons Limited, Chichester

Price: £51.95

ISBN: 0-471-15410-5

Chapter 1 offers a useful and understandable introduction to censoring—the problem of incomplete observations.

Chapter 2 covers the estimation of survivorship functions, but then starts to get mathematical. However, it should be understandable by those who can still remember their A-level mathematics. It includes Kaplan–Meir life table estimations and gives some useful comparisons with alternatives.

The remainder of the book is devoted to more complex regression methods and is really a reference for statisticians, the mathematical reasoning is likely to be beyond anyone who does not have considerable mathematical understanding. It is not a book for the average researcher interested in failure and survival, but I would be reassured to see it on the bookshelf of a statistician providing advice on such studies.

David Stirrups

### Aesthetic Perspectives in Jaw Surgery (1999)

Author: Harvey M. Rosen

Publisher: Springer-Verlag, Heidelberg

Price: DM 249.00

An important objective of jaw surgery is that it should correct an abnormal occlusion. However, there is only one ideal occlusal result, and that is a normal one. The aesthetic outcome of the orthognathic surgery, on the other hand, may vary tremendously from unacceptable to acceptable to outstanding depending on which jaw or jaws are moved, and to what extent they are moved. The great variability in treatment planning, therefore, arises mainly from attempts to achieve the best aesthetic result, and accordingly orthognathic surgery is best considered as aesthetic surgery.

Dr Rosen's personal aesthetic philosophy of jaw surgery, which has evolved over a period of 15 years, is presented in 13 chapters which are organized under three main headings: Part I, Principles, Part II, Surgical considerations, and Part III, Adjunctive considerations.

In the six chapters of Part I, the aesthetic principles on which treatment planning is based are presented. The author discusses the aesthetic

goals, the role of facial disproportion, prediction tracings and model surgery, surgeon-patient communications, aesthetic orthodontics, and technical considerations. Part II deals with the aesthetic principles which are applicable to the surgical correction of Class III and Class II deformities, and vertical facial excess and deficiency. The last section of the book describes adjunctive surgical options that can be utilized to enhance the final aesthetic result. Such options include chin and soft tissue surgery, and re-operation following surgery in patients in which the treatment plan was inadvertently not followed or when an error in treatment planning has occurred. Each chapter ends with a list of publications for additional reading.

A distinctive feature of the treatment planning described in this book is that aesthetic considerations are not based on normative cephalometric data. The author points out, and rightly so, that there are many individuals who have so-called

normal facial proportions, and yet are not considered beautiful. Some attractive individuals, on the other hand, may have facial measurements and proportions that fall outside these normal ranges. Instead of using norms, the author bases his treatment philosophy on three principles: (1) that the skeletal support of the facial soft tissues is a critical factor in determining the aesthetic success or failure of orthognathic surgery; (2) that soft tissue goals must influence the direction and extent of skeletal displacements, and to achieve these goals, it is generally more predictable to expand than to contract skeletal volume; and (3) that measures taken to expand the facial skeleton frequently result in facial skeletal disproportion, which, under the right aesthetic circumstances, can be extremely attractive.

The application of these principles occasionally results in treatment plans which at first sight may appear paradoxical. For example, advancement of the mandible may constitute a part of a Class III treatment in order to preserve and/or enhance the skeletal support of the facial mask. Only with adequate soft tissue support will optimal facial aesthetics, angularity and definition be attained.

The aesthetic results achieved through the author's treatment concept are shown in excellent case-history illustrations which are mostly in colour. These figures include profile and full face photographs of the patient before and after treatment, the occlusion before and after treatment, and three tracings (pre-operative status, treatment plan, and post-operative prediction). Each treatment is also extensively described with the main focus on the soft tissue considerations and facial proportions which determine the extent and vector of skeletal movement.

The book lives up to its title, and the contents are stimulating and easily digested. The numerous illustrations and the explanatory texts make it is easy to grasp and understand the aesthetic concepts of the author. Although this book is written mainly for orthognathic surgeons, it should also be of interest to all those working in other odontological specialties, where giving consideration to facial aesthetics is a difficult, but important part of daily practice.

Carl-Magnus Forsberg