

Book Reviews

Orofacial pain. From basic science to clinical management (2000)

Editors: James P. Lund, Gilles J. Lavigne, Ronald Dubner and Barry J. Sessle

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

Price: £25

ISBN: 0-86715-381-4

The present book is based on papers originally presented at a symposium for teachers of orofacial pain held in Vancouver in March 1999. The aim of the book, as stated in the foreword, is to provide the undergraduate student or clinician with an evidence based concise summary of the current knowledge about orofacial pain.

The 300 pages are divided into four sections and 24 chapters. The first section deals with the definition, classification and epidemiology of orofacial pain as well as current beliefs and facts with respect to the aetiology of different orofacial pain conditions. The second section focuses on the neurobiology of pain: peripheral pain mechanisms, central nociceptive pathways, neurochemical factors in injury and inflammation, mechanisms of neuropathic pain and pain modulatory systems. All topics are presented referring explicitly to orofacial pain among others, by presenting examples from everyday dental practice. In the third section different methods of assessing pain, mechanisms of pain perception and cognitive modulation of pain, psychosocial aspects of pain, the influence of gender and movement on pain as well as the

interrelation between chronic pain and sleep are addressed. The final section deals with the management of orofacial pain. The authors state exactly what is known and what is unclear with respect to different treatment approaches to chronic orofacial, dental, inflammatory, muscular, articular, mucosal and neuropathic pain.

The text is kept simple and reads well, also from a student's perspective. The uniformity of expressions throughout the different chapters eliminates term-confusion and enhances understanding.

This book is not and was not meant to be a ready reference for the clinical diagnosis and management of orofacial pain; it gives the reader the up-to-date scientifically proven theoretical knowledge underlying all aspects of orofacial pain, thus providing the reader with information that is not easily accessible or found only in parts being in other books on orofacial pain.

Overall this is an inexpensive book that is recommended for undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as clinicians interested in the fundamental principles of orofacial pain.

Sabine Ruf

Glossary of Orthodontic Terms (2000)

Author: John Daskalogiannakis

Editors: F. P. G. M. van der Linden, R-R. Miethke and J. A. McNamara Jr

Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Co Ltd, New Malden, Surrey, UK

Price: £65

ISBN: 3-87652-760-0

The *Glossary of Orthodontic Terms* is another step forward in the globalization of orthodontics and orthodontic treatment. As the world of orthodontics becomes more interdependent, the

glossary and a commonality of scientific language will enhance our communication. The book will also contribute to the education of undergraduate dental students getting

acquainted with orthodontics, and to serve as a practical aid to orthodontists and general dentists.

The *Glossary* draws subject matter from a multitude of topics including biomechanics, cephalometrics, clinical orthodontics, embryology, growth and development, history of orthodontics, implantology, materials science, occlusion, oral biology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, paediatric dentistry, periodontology, syndromology, and temporomandibular disorders. More than 2800 terms are defined in the 283 pages. Excellent illustrations are provided.

The explanation of terms is very detailed and sometimes like a summary in a textbook. For example 'Tooth eruption mechanisms' are described in detail with six different theories,

including hydrostatic pressure and the dental follicle theory. More than 60 different orthodontic appliances are described in 18 pages.

This book will in the future be a classic tool in the orthodontic profession. The value for non-English colleagues cannot be over-estimated since the descriptions of terms are clear, precise and very informative. It will also be helpful to orthodontists and other professionals interested in the communication of orthodontics and dentofacial orthopaedics. Included with the book is a CD-ROM version, which contains the full text and with hybrid compatibility (both Mac and Windows).

The book is highly recommended.

Jüri Kurol

A Textbook of Fixed Prosthodontics: the Scandinavian approach (2000)

Editors: S. Karlsson, K. Nilner and B. J. Dahl

Publishers: Gothia, Stockholm

Price: SEK 760

ISBN: 91-7205-280-5

This beautifully produced large-format hardback is the child of the *Scandinavian Society for Prosthetic Dentistry* (SSPD). The Scandinavian approach is described as 'a sober individualized approach avoiding complicated and elaborate techniques'. Twenty-three distinguished authors have joined with the Editors to describe this approach, especially for the target audience of undergraduate students of fixed prosthodontics. The aim is to equip them for patient diagnosis, individualized treatment planning, and then either execution of these plans or specialist referral in more complex cases. The book is structured in four main parts of unequal length: (i) Examination and Diagnosis, (ii) Biological Considerations and Pretreatment Procedures, (iii) Prosthodontic Materials, (iv) Treatment Management. There are also considerations of longevity and complications of fixed partial dentures and the deployment of implants. Each of the 20 sub-sections has its own set of 10–25 endnote references to the primary literature.

This makes a good contribution to evidence-based dentistry, a topic dealt with in some detail in the concluding chapter.

The whole subject is thus addressed in a logical sequence and great pains have been taken to ensure consistency throughout the didactic progression. The length of the volume is sufficient to give a thorough grounding in the subject without becoming unwieldy. The layout of the text is most inviting and clear colour illustrations and graphics appear throughout. In treatment-planning, decision-trees are utilized advantageously. In considering prosthodontic biomaterials, several key topics are addressed, such as adverse reactions, for which Nordic researchers are playing an internationally-leading role.

The textbook is recommended for widespread adoption, on the basis of its clear, contemporary, and authoritative approach.

David Watts