

Textbook of Head and Neck Anatomy, 3rd edn (2001)

Authors: James L. Hiatt and Leslie P. Gartner

Publishers: Lippincott Williams, & Wilkins Limited, London

Price: £29.95

ISBN: 0-7817-2166-0

With a clearly written and concise style, this book successfully covers the often difficult area of head and neck anatomy. The text is not overloaded with unnecessary minutiae, yet provides the prospective purchaser with a solid foundation in the subject, suitable for both under- and post-graduate examinations alike.

Having discussed general anatomical concepts, the volume provides a clear description of the normal features of the mouth, its embryology and osteology. The major organs and structures are then successfully considered, using a 'regional anatomy' approach. Wisely, the supra-regional systems, blood supply, lymphatic drainage and neurology, are described towards the end. Discussions of the anatomical basis for procedures are a most successful instrument for reminding those readers new to the subject, of the clinical relevance of pure anatomical studies.

The use of tabulated summaries of cranial nerves, muscle functions, foraminae and their contents, etc., are of great value, as is the 'glossary of terms'. The book is profusely illustrated, using numerous clear line diagrams.

These are united with a succinct range of illustrations from both research and clinical imaging sources (SEM, CT, Plain radiographs, and MRI). The colour oestology plates, along with the pertinent chapter, are worthy of special praise. While perfectly adequate in monochrome, it seems a shame that the normal oral anatomy plates were not also presented in colour.

One must also appreciate the US origins of the book, as for example the ovoid condylar head is described as 'football shaped'. The comment may only be applied, however, if the American game is considered, as conventional European rules demand a spherical ball!

This volume presents a clear, concise and well illustrated description of head and neck anatomy at a most affordable price, suitable, and appropriate for all students, including those approaching postgraduate Royal College Membership examinations. I am pleased to have had the opportunity of reading this useful volume.

Richard J. Cook

Periodontics in Practice: science with humanity (2000)

Author: Trevor L. P. Watts

Publisher: Martin Duntz Ltd, London

Price: £59.95

ISBN: 1-85317-830-6

The author makes the point at the outset that periodontics is the clinical practice of periodontology, thus making clinical practice scientifically related, but patient centred.

The style of this short text, 292 pages, with the multitude of lavish illustrations and line drawings of surgical techniques gives the reader the feel of clinical contact. Interwoven into the clinical descriptions are specific illustrative case histories and a structured appraisal, in *précis* form, of relevant literature. Although, the author

himself identifies in the preface that the choice of literature is personal, it is refreshing in an era of awareness of evidence-based dentistry that many of the classic studies reported have spanned the career of the author. It is a compliment to the specialty of periodontology that such well-developed clinical practice, based on science, can be presented.

The book is intended for dentists and students. Both would benefit from studying the text. However, it is not inexpensive and it may be that

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the style of presentation, which is so dependent on colour, may tend to reduce commercial appeal. In addition to the many colour photographs, there are colour graphics, line drawings and even colour coded charts of probing depths.

The relationship between orthodontics and periodontics is given little space. Namely, Chapter 26, which is 6 pages in length of which approximately half are photographs. Notably, a removable retainer does appear in Chapter 4 that is concerned with the history of periodontal disease. From an orthodontic point of view, I would like to have seen some discussion of evidence concerning the management of retention of the periodontally involved adult

patient, which is an interesting and difficult topic.

In addition to the brief summaries of papers, there is a bibliography of 30 articles. This seems limited for such an extensive subject area. My view was that some further citation or recommendation for extended reading would have been useful.

Although I am still puzzled by the sub-title 'Science with humanity', I enjoyed the book, found it easy to read and well presented. I would recommend it to anyone interested in an overview of periodontics.

Neil Pender

Problem Solving in Orthodontics. Goal-oriented Treatment Strategies (2000)

Authors: Charles J. Burstone and Michael R. Marcotte

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

Price: £78

ISBN: 0-86715-353-9

It has been a pleasure to read this book dealing with treatment planning, where the authors generously share with the reader their clinical knowledge and experience. It encourages the orthodontist to treat patients in a reflective way and goal-orientated strategies are an unusual way of not using any classification system or choice of appliance therapy as a base for the treatment goals. The titles of the chapters reflect the sequence of strategies; skeletal changes, plane of occlusion, upper and lower arch forms, treatment midline, and arch-length discrepancies. The authors begin with introducing three-dimensional orthodontic treatment planning, which includes a lateral cephalometric headfilm, a frontal view made from the posterioranterior cephalometric headfilm, an occlusogram, and a photograph of the occlusal aspect of the dental

casts. The cephalometric analysis and growth prediction were developed by Burstone (1958), and Burstone and Hickman (1968), and the occlusogram by Burstone in 1961. Each chapter contains well described clinical cases where each goal-orientated strategy is developed. Unfortunately, there is no detailed discussion concerning retention.

The authors have arranged treatment planning into a well-organized system, where many experienced clinicians will recognize their own unreflective system. The novice will find help in treatment planning, but may feel the need for some mathematical approach to the strategies, as a new cook in the kitchen feels for 'a grain of salt'. How much is it!

Eva Hellsing