

Book Reviews

An Atlas of the Transverse Dimensions of the Face, Monograph 37, Craniofacial Growth Series (2001)

Authors: Ahmed A. Basyouni and Surender K. Nanda

Publisher: Center for Human Growth and Development, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Price: \$75

ISBN: 0-929921-33-X

This atlas presents facial width data, as measured from postero-anterior (PA) cephalograms. Specifically, six parameters are covered, from bilatero-orbitale to bigonial widths. The data derives from the Denver Child Research Council Growth study; although the dates during which the material was collected are not given, it appears that the study was conducted many years ago and, indeed, the references provided were not readily traceable. The measurements were obtained from serial PA cephalograms taken from children between the ages of 5–18 years and, as a minimum of nine films were taken for each patient, the material is quite unique and would be virtually impossible to duplicate nowadays. Thirty male and 30 female patients' details are plotted and their dimensions clearly shown in tabulated as well as graphic form. For each dimension there are details of absolute size, annual growth curves with 95 per cent confidence intervals, as well as annual incremental measurements. It is clearly the intention of both authors that the data be used as standards against which an individual patient's dimensions could be compared, either as individual linear

measurements or, if serial data is available, to identify any deviations in growth. There is a useful method for assessing asymmetry, both in the vertical and horizontal planes. As such, the atlas is probably extremely useful, however, it is a pity that more details of the original population studied are not provided. It would normally be expected that presentation of growth study material would be accompanied by details of the population, including sample attrition, and methodology, as well as the type of equipment used and especially with PA cephalometric data, details of the method error investigation. None of this is available, presumably mostly because of the age of the material, but these omissions do introduce an element of doubt when comparing one's patients' measurements with those in this atlas. The measurements themselves are clearly and logically presented and, indeed, the atlas is beautifully produced. If a later edition could possibly include further details of methodology, its credibility would be greatly enhanced.

R. J. Edler

Orthodontics Picture Test Atlas (2001)

Authors: Claire Nightingale and Jonathan Sandy

Publisher: Butterworth Heinemann, Oxford

Price: £19.99

ISBN: 0-7236-1072-X

As the title suggests, this book is designed as an illustrated question and answer guide to orthodontics. The first half of the book contains a series of pictures and questions related to various aspects of orthodontics, while the second

half holds the answers and explanations. In the preface, the authors state that the aim of the book is to explain the basics of orthodontics with the help of visual aids. In actual fact, however, some fundamental and, in some instances, quite