

is that it invites exploration of subjects, which instead of being dry and dull, suddenly become inviting and illuminating. This package has already proved to be very popular with students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, and rightly so. Those preparing for the MFDS exam will find it particularly useful.

The package is priced at £75 which makes it extremely competitive when compared with a similar amount of information presented in hard copy form. This should be a cyber best seller.

Paul Robinson

Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics (2001)

Authors: James A. McNamara Jr and William L. Brudon
 Publisher: Needham Press Inc., Ann Arbor, USA
 Price: \$195
 ISBN: 0-9630522-3-9

This substantial work is based on James McNamara's long experience as a clinician in private practice, as a teacher, and as a researcher. William Brudon has created many superb illustrations for the book and there are contributions from a number of other well known orthodontic authors, notably Vincent Kokich.

This book sets out primarily to be a very practical guide to orthodontics, based on Professor McNamara's personal practice. As such, each chapter includes a large amount of clinical advice, backed up by a review of the evidence behind it. This is in marked contrast to many other orthodontic texts where the opening chapters cover scientific background, with clinical techniques being described later. McNamara's practical approach right from the start has the huge advantage of making his book easy and enjoyable to read.

The opening chapter is an overview of the book, followed by a section on clinical examination in which some emphasis is placed on the practice environment into which patients are received. A section on dental development leads into the chapter on tooth/arch size discrepancies, which is where the significant role of rapid maxillary expansion is introduced. McNamara considers that transverse discrepancies are fundamental in the aetiology of many malocclusions, not only crowding but also Class II and Class III problems. He describes the interesting chance finding that early use of rapid maxillary expansion induces some spontaneous correction of Class II

discrepancies, which has subsequently been confirmed by clinical studies. This approach has been built into his treatment approach to Class II malocclusions, in combination with fixed, functional, and extra-oral appliances. The chapter on the vertical dimension includes discussions on facial growth patterns, the role of the soft tissues, the effects of nasal obstruction and orthopaedic treatment strategies for open and deep bite.

Five chapters describe McNamara's use of pre-adjusted fixed appliances in routine clinical practice, including utility and various transpalatal arches, as well as the clinical management of palatal expansion appliances. The use of the Schwarz appliance to gain arch length in the early mixed dentition is described, especially in the mandible. The chapter on the Twin Block appliance includes a review of the biological basis of functional appliance therapy and is followed by chapters on the Fränkel FR2, Herbst, Bionator, and Jasper Jumper appliances. Molar distalization using intra-oral devices, such as the Pendulum appliance, as well as with headgear is discussed, as are the roles of the face mask and the FR3 appliance in Class III malocclusion.

Vincent Kokich has contributed a very practical guide to the management of various impacted teeth, followed by a review of the management of malformed teeth, hypodontia, and combined orthodontic-restorative treatments. This is followed by a review of strategies for finishing and retention, including a discussion of the basis on which treatment goals are based. Extensive use is

made of invisible retainers and aligners such as the Invisalign appliance.

Interestingly, the chapter on cephalometric analysis comes almost at the end of the book. The McNamara analysis is well known and is presented here in its latest form. The final chapter is an overview of the relationship between orthodontics, occlusion, and temporomandibular joint dysfunction.

This is a fine book: authoritative, but at the same time every effort has been made to relate

theory to clinical practice. Inevitably, it reflects the author's orthodontic practice within current North American circumstances, but there is a wealth of invaluable information here. It is beautifully produced, with high quality photographs and Brudon's splendid drawings. This book is highly recommended for any orthodontic library.

Nigel Carter

Oral Development and Histology (2002)

Editor: James K. Avery

Publisher: Thieme, Stuttgart, Germany

Price: €65.45

ISBN: 3-13-100193-3

The present book is the third edition of a previously successful and very useful book for dental students, teachers, and experienced practitioners.

The book contains six sections with a glossary at the end. The sections cover the development and histology of all areas of the craniofacial region, teeth and supporting tissues, oral cavity glands, and related tissues of the oral and paraoral areas. It is true that the book covers the whole field of oral development and histology but the knowledge offered is, unfortunately, not up-to-date. Although the last edition was a classic textbook on oral development and histology the revised and updated edition does not really succeed in providing all the new information available on this continually expanding field. During the last decade a tremendous amount of knowledge, coming from molecular biology, has been accumulated in the area of oral development. Molecular mechanisms that unravel the events of tooth, bone, and cartilage development are beginning to result in a better understanding not only of the physiological conditions but also

in explaining various genetic defects. From that aspect this revised edition contains only a very small fraction of this knowledge. Moreover, in all chapters the suggested reading is outdated with very few new additions. It is most likely that the book needs separate chapters written by experts in oral developmental biology.

Despite this criticism the book contains appropriate coloured photographs and clear histological images that enhance understanding of the text. At the end of each chapter the summary focuses on the most important issues, and the self-evaluation section allows the dental student to quickly review the knowledge obtained. The very useful separate paragraphs in all chapters entitled 'Clinical applications' bring the knowledge from basic science close to the clinical environment. Although the third edition is meant to be an updated textbook of oral development and histology it fails to provide the up-to-date scientific knowledge much needed not only by dental students but also by practising clinicians.

Effie K. Basdra