

systematic review of these for cleft lip and palate is difficult. One would hope the development of organisations such as the Eurocran collaboration will result in more properly conducted trials developing in the near future.

There are useful sections giving information on planning for surgical trials, measuring outcome, the cost benefit and the treatment burden for the patient.

Chapters range from the Role of the Environment to Prevention of Craniofacial Anomalies. Each is well written and provides up-to-date information, for example

on the possible teratogenic effect of tobacco and alcohol.

There are a series of annex's at the rear of the publication and one of the most relevant is the record for treatment planning and monitoring along with the timing of minimum records as recommended by the WHO.

This is an excellent and timely publication which is essential reading for all involved in the care of patients with cleft lip and palate.

Dai Roberts-Harry

Fundamentals of Periodontics. 2nd edition (2003)

Editors: Thomas G. Wilson, Jr., Kenneth S. Kornman

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

Price: £58.00

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The title of this book reflects very well its scope of a fundamental presentation of both long-standing and new knowledge in clinical periodontology and related areas. Apart from a distinct biological and evidence-based approach, two additional features of this book are striking. The first is the long list of contributors many of whom are internationally renowned. The second is the arrangement of topics into chapters with respect to both the sequence of topic presentation and their diversity, in particular some marginal issues are given full chapter status. Both features blend in most cases to result in excellent chapters. However, there is some quality variation between the individual chapters which is probably unavoidable when a book of such diversity is compiled. For instance, the only attention the interface between

orthodontics and periodontics is given, consists of a few elementary statements and case presentations.

Well over 600 pages of small text contains a great deal of information. The illustrations are mostly of good or sufficient quality. Whilst reproductions of some clinical photographs and radiographs would benefit from higher quality, this would probably result in a much higher price. Considering the size and the scope of the book its price is very reasonable. I anticipate that postgraduate specialist trainees in periodontology and perhaps some extraordinarily motivated undergraduate students will find this book very valuable.

Andrej Zentner