

Book Reviews

TMJ disorders and orofacial pain. The role of dentistry in a multidisciplinary approach (2002)

Authors: Axel Bumann and Ulrich Lotzmann

Publisher: Thieme Verlagsgruppe, Stuttgart, Germany

Price: €179

ISBN: 3-13-127161-2

Craniomandibular disorders (CMD) represent a group of diseases encountered by every dentist in daily practice. This excellent, graphically and photographically illustrated book provides the reader with very well organized information on the anatomic and diagnostic principles for temporomandibular disorders and orofacial pain.

The atlas gives an excellent overview of the many aspects that must be considered when evaluating a patient with CMD, considering both the dental and non-dental factors which may be involved in the aetiology of CMD. The multidisciplinary approach presented in this book is extremely well referenced wherever possible, thus adding important evidenced-based literature to the field.

The 360 pages of this atlas are divided into nine chapters. The main chapters are dedicated to anatomy (50 pages), manual functional analysis (90 pages), imaging procedures (60 pages) as well as diagnoses and classifications (40 pages). In addition there is an extensive chapter on mounting of casts and occlusal analysis as well as instrumental analysis of jaw movements. Therapeutic principles are just presented as a general overview and according to the authors will be the topic of a future book.

The 'manual functional analysis' chapter is outstanding as the single steps leading to the diagnosis are explained in detail and easy to follow. The 'imaging procedures' chapter describes the indications for every single imaging technique underlining the explanation by a multitude of images of different disorders. The section on magnetic resonance imaging pathology of the temporomandibular joint (TMJ) is one of the most detailed available in the literature. Furthermore, the 'diagnoses and classification' chapter is an excellent learning tool due to its perfectly structured organization.

The only disadvantage of the book is the price, although this is in the normal range for a Thieme colour atlas of dental medicine, the reader is however rewarded by exquisite quality illustrations throughout the book which contribute markedly to the learning process.

Overall this is an extraordinarily comprehensive teaching atlas on TMJ disorders and orofacial pain. In my opinion this is one of the foremost books which has ever been written on the topic and is recommended for every dentist and dental specialist.

Sabine Ruf

Twin Block Functional Therapy Applications in Dentofacial Orthopaedics—Second Edition (2002)

Author: William J. Clark

Publisher: Mosby, St Louis

Price: £120.00

ISBN: 0723 43170 1

In the preface to the second edition of Twin Block Functional Therapy, the author indicates that one of the intriguing mysteries of contemporary orthodontics is the exact nature of human orthopaedic response to functional appliance therapy. Recent statistical and evidenced-based research has provided convincing support for the efficacy of orthopaedic techniques, and the book reviews information gathered on the effects of Twin Blocks on growth modification.

The second edition is a significant and exhaustive revision of the first but, of necessity, contains much of the same essential material. The case presentations and commentary still largely reflect Clark's experience in orthodontic practice and, although there are minor contributions from several guest authors, the work still remains a dedication to his lifetime in orthodontics/orthopaedics. The book maintains and furthers his philosophy that the correction of abnormal skeletal

development is the basis for the management of resulting malocclusions. Moreover, the contents provide a biologically-based perspective for the long-term assessment of treatment results.

Extensive reformatting and excellent publishing have facilitated reading and made appliance details easier to understand and subsequently use. The re-editing and two additional chapters have slightly expanded the book. The new chapters deal with modern advances in diagnostic and treatment concepts that, anecdotally supported by case reports, provide an insight to the

possible future directions of patient management. The book is worth having for the provocative and controversial nature of the contents of the additional chapters but this notwithstanding, the book maintains the emphasis of providing practical advice and instruction that is a direct benefit to practitioners, teachers and students of orthodontics. It comes recommended as a worthy addition to any personal or public library.

Craig W. Dreyer

Craniofacial Morphogenesis

Marie-Josèphe Deshayes (1999)
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This CD-ROM, on the subject of craniofacial morphogenesis, has been written by Marie-Josèphe Deshayes and produced by Telecrane Innovation. It is compatible with both PC and Macintosh formats and runs using the Mac-based Quicktime application. Minimal requirements recommended are a Pentium 133 MHz or PowerMac PC processor. Unfortunately, it does not run in Mac OS-X, which may be a problem for users of the latest specification Macintosh machines. The copy provided was installed easily and, following the insertion of a validation code, it ran without any problems.

The CD itself covers the subject of craniofacial morphogenesis and this is presented in a book-type format with an accompanying audio commentary. The main menu is separated into a number of sub-sections, which includes a table of contents, main theme and sections offering greater detail of certain concepts covered within the main theme, namely statistical data and craniology. Finally, there is a section demonstrating some examples of treated clinical cases and a bibliography. Panels below each section within the menu inform the user of the percentage of information consulted and these can be saved or deleted as required.

The presentation itself consists of text and an accompanying commentary which can be controlled using scroll bars. In addition, there are a series of diagrammatic aids to assist with the text. Navigation through different sections is controlled by a menu at the bottom of the screen. Some of the diagrams are useful and relate directly to the text, but some present no useful information whatsoever and appear to be included for artistic impression alone. This is a shame because many of the introduced concepts are difficult to grasp and the

opportunity to explain these more efficiently with relevant diagrams has been slightly lost. I also felt that the voice-over went a little too quickly, making it difficult to follow in conjunction with both text and diagrams. Overall, the package is reasonably easy to use and in particular, the craniology section runs very effectively, with the operator being able to rotate a dry skull in three dimensions to allow visualisation of certain cephalometric points and then switch to obtain both a written definition and their location on a lateral skull radiograph.

The central theme of this presentation is the concept of cranial biomechanics during morphogenesis of the skull and in particular, flexion in the basicranium and the resulting effects upon maxillary and mandibular relationships. An extensive and highly complex CRANEXPLO cephalometric analysis is described in order to quantify these relationships and a variety of statistics and examples are provided for differing cranial profiles and malocclusions. The author proposes the early orthopaedic correction of any identifiable craniofacial disharmony in order to re-orientate deviant growth trajectories and suggests that this is instigated before six years of age. A number of treatment cases are shown to demonstrate the benefits of early orthopaedic intervention in correcting deviant craniofacial growth, but in reality they provide only sketchy detail.

The principle criticism is that the title of this CD-ROM is a little misleading because it does not actually provide a general overview of current concepts in craniofacial morphogenesis, either pre- or post-natal. Many fundamental principles of craniofacial growth are either not covered or dealt with only fleetingly. It very

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