

Book Reviews

LECTURE NOTES ON DISEASES OF THE EAR NOSE AND THROAT. 9th edn

P. D. Bull

Blackwell Publishing Ltd., 2002

ISBN 0632065060, £16.95. pp192 (available from publishers www.medirect.com)

This is the latest evolution of the handbook we older types will remember as Miles Foxen, first published in 1961. If any UK medical students still have some ENT training in their curriculum, this may well be the book that might inspire them and interest them in our speciality. It is an attractive work and very good value. The many colour illustrations tend to reflect the current author's paediatric practice, but also his recognised gift for photography. Undergraduate ENT handbooks traditionally tended to present long lists of otherwise unexplained pathologies, to account for any symptom, but we are largely spared that here. There is instead a nice problem-orientated approach and a very readable text. If we can only persuade the deans that some ENT knowledge is an advantage to most practitioners, there should be a ready market for a book that seems cheaper now than I recall from the 1970s!

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DIAGNOSTIC HANDBOOK OF OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY

M. Hawke, B. Bingham, H. Stammberger, B. Benjamin (eds.)

Martin Dunitz, 2002

ISBN 1 841184 228 1, Price £24.95

This is the second edition of the popular '*Diagnostic Handbook of Otorhinolaryngology*'. It is a superbly illustrated paperback textbook, which I am sure will be extremely useful for trainees in otorhinolaryngology, and for general practitioners. It is also an extremely useful revision aid for oral exams. The book consists of five sections: the ear; the nose; the oral cavity; the larynx; and the neck. Each section has a series of high quality pictures, occasionally supplemented with line drawings, illustrating normal features followed by pathology. A short overview introduces each chapter, and each illustration has a short text describing the salient features. The short summaries are easy to follow, to the point, and generally accurate.

For owners of '*A Colour Atlas of Otorhinolaryngology*' there will be a sense of *deja vu*, as portions of this book were published in the 1995 publication by the same authors.

Overall I found this a most enjoyable book to review, and I would highly recommend it to the appropriate groups.

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CONTROVERSIES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF SALIVARY GLAND DISEASE

Mark McGurk, A. Renehan (eds)

Oxford University Press, 2003

ISBN 0192632787

This book is a must for all clinicians who have more than a passing interest in the management of salivary gland disorders. The book is based on an international symposium on salivary gland disease which took place at Guy's and St. Thomas Hospital, London in 1999. Thirty of the speakers have contributed to the book, the aim of which is to highlight and resolve controversies in the management of both neoplastic and non-neoplastic salivary gland disease. Most chapters have two contributors giving different perspectives. At the end of the chapter is a short section containing the pertinent points raised in audience discussion at the symposium. Each chapter is concluded by an editorial comment summarising the current views of each particular topic.

As might be expected the usefulness of fine needle aspiration cytology in the investigation of salivary gland swellings is given another airing. The changing face of conventional principles in the surgery for pleomorphic adenoma is eloquently addressed, followed in the next chapter by different perspectives on the treatment of spillage and residual pleomorphic adenoma. There is a lot of detail on the management of salivary gland cancer, including factors for the prediction of neck metastases and their treatment. The management of calculi by extra-corporeal lithotripsy and endoscopic techniques are well described with current indications for the respective types of treatment.

This book contains a large amount of important information presented to a very high standard. The editors are to be congratulated in producing an excellent book which brings the reader right up to date with the latest clinical based evidence for the management of a wide variety of salivary gland pathologies.

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COCHLEAR IMPLANTS – OBJECTIVE MEASURES

Helen Cullington (ed)

Whurr Publishers, 2003

ISBN 1 86156 324 8, Price £35.00 pp 230

Cochlear implants are now an almost universally accepted modality of hearing rehabilitation. The number of patients who receive cochlear implants increases year on year as the stringency of candidacy and the age limit reduces. The safety and reliability of the implants is also well validated. Nevertheless, there is a need for

objective measures to confirm that a patient is a suitable candidate, verify that the device is functioning, and to enable the parameters of the device to be set and, or adjusted. It is this expanding and important field that this text covers. All authors are experienced clinicians and researchers in the field, and provide them up to date overview of current practice and areas of future interest. For those not involved in an implant programme the only chapter of interest will be the extremely well written, easy to read introduction. This

initial chapter gives an excellent overview of the topic, commenting on standard electrical and electrophysiological measures, as well as introducing the exciting area of positron emission tomography and functional MRI.

I would say that for any institution performing implants that this book should probably be a required text.

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