

Book Reviews

ENDOLARYNGEAL SURGERY

Bruce Benjamin,
Martin Dunitz Ltd, 1998.
ISBN 1 85317 3231. Price: £99.50. pp 374.

Endolaryngeal Surgery by Benjamin is a single authored book dedicated to the management of laryngeal pathology. Professor Benjamin is an international authority in the area of laryngeal disorders, both in children and adults. This book is a distillation of his approach. It is beautifully illustrated with over 450 photographs and drawings. It is also superbly organized. The book is divided into sections on clinical evaluation, anaesthesia and laryngoscopy, conditions seen in children and adults, benign diseases and disorders only found in adults, laryngeal neoplasia, congenital abnormalities and inflammatory airway obstruction.

At the beginning of each chapter, an outline is presented and then meticulously adhered to. Throughout the text of each chapter, synopses are given in a highlighted and outlined fashion clearly identifying areas of particular importance. Diagrammatic flow charts and copious photographs are used to great effect. These allow the reader to hone in on critical issues. Each chapter offers the type of information, in a compelling fashion, that the surgeon or student of the problem might wish for.

Overall the book is an excellent addition to the armamentarium of any surgeon dealing with laryngo-tracheal pathology in children or adults. It is highly recommended.

JOHN RUBIN

AUDIOLOGISTS' DESK REFERENCE VOL II AUDIOLOGIC MANAGEMENT, REHABILITATION AND TERMINOLOGY

H. Gustav Mueller and James W. Hall,
Singular Publishing Group Inc. 1998.
ISBN 1 565493 711 2. Price: £54.00. pp 1006.

The initial response on receiving this book for review was a groan, not just on lifting its 1.6 kg but also on reading a title of seemingly limited interest to a surgical enthusiast. Most otologists delude ourselves that ours is a hands-on-discipline. In practice most of the week is spent in clinics whilst the little operative work is snatched by trainees. A revision in audiologic management and rehabilitation is no harm.

This is the second substantial volume of a book which admits to being designed for reference only and indeed its format favours a skimming approach. It is packed with graphs, tables, short, often humorous, anecdotes and tips with bold headlines and highlights. The first third of the book covers hearing aid provision and the middle (and best) third the management of tinnitus and

cochlear implantation. The final third concentrates on US, and indeed largely private, practice and will be of little relevance to the UK reader.

This book will have great appeal in the US but may not cross the Atlantic so well. The humour and idiosyncrasies of the contents are best appreciated by those familiar with the characters of North American audiology (who do seem to be a lively bunch) and with the profusion of acronyms which the authors freely scorn. It is unclear why seven pages of small print are devoted to the admittedly fascinating life story of Davy Crockett for example.

In a book designed for easy reference the lack of an index is an unfortunate omission. There is much in this book that justifies its place in an audiology department once the reader adjusts to the style.

LIAM FLOOD

ATLAS ON THE SURGICAL ANATOMY OF LARYNGEAL CANCER

John A. Kirchner, M.D.,
Singular Publishing Group Inc. 1998.
ISBN 1 56593 776 7. Price: £118.00. pp 160.

This Atlas sets out to illustrate the growth and spread of laryngeal and hypopharyngeal cancer derived from whole organ surgical specimens and whole organ sections.

The Atlas is divided into separate chapters for each sub-site within the larynx and hypopharynx and then sets out by means of photographs and photo-micrographs of cancers within each sub-site to demonstrate growth and spread within the larynx. Each of the five chapters contains a short description of patterns of spread within each sub-site and then is lavishly illustrated with numerous surgical specimens. The quality of the illustrations is superb and the sections are well orientated by means of an associated line diagram. The legend to each plate accurately describes the site and extent of the tumour and the choice of the specimens has been made to illustrate Dr Kirchner's wealth of experience in dealing with laryngeal cancer.

For the practising head and neck surgical oncologist the Atlas illustrates a number of very useful points, particularly regarding the difficulties in accurately assessing tumours by direct laryngoscopy. It is unfortunate that many of the specimens were obtained before current endoscopic examination using angled telescopes was available, as the inclusion of pre-operative endoscopic photographs of the same tumours would have illustrated this point to great effect.

The cases selected also eloquently illustrate the difficulties in assessing submucosal spread of tumour, particularly following radical radiotherapy. The organ sections illustrate the pattern of framework invasion and these two factors should be understood by any

surgeon contemplating intraluminal laser surgery for laryngeal cancer. Within the text mention is made of the relationship of tumour growth and spread to conservative laryngeal surgery, and again a thorough understanding of the pattern of intralaryngeal spread essential for surgeons practising partial laryngeal surgery.

Within the chapters there are some of Frank Netter's drawings of partial laryngeal surgery, but I am not sure that their inclusion is helpful to the main thrust of the text. Certainly, a working knowledge of partial laryngeal surgery is required to appreciate the points Dr Kirchner makes regarding case selection, but the brief description and drawings of partial laryngeal resections I do not think adds to the value of the Atlas.

I think this book should be on the shelf of any practising head and neck surgical oncologist, particularly those practising partial laryngeal or laser surgery. It should certainly be in any departmental library. The quality of the illustrations is excellent and the points made regarding each case cogent and important. The text is somewhat discursive and I think the important points Dr Kirchner makes could have been made with more emphasis. These reservations notwithstanding, I think this is an excellent Atlas and should stand as a testament to his personal experience in managing patients with this disease.

GRAHAM COX

HEAD AND NECK CANCER ORGAN PRESERVATION, FUNCTION AND REHABILITATION

K. T. Robbins, M.D., T. Murray, Ph.D.,
Singular Publishing Group Inc., 1998.
ISBN 1 56593 972 7. Price: \$99.95. pp 300.

A book dedicated to organ preservation, function and rehabilitation in the treatment of head and neck cancer is both timely and topical. I congratulate the authors on bringing together a group of well recognized international experts who have provided well written, short and concise chapters, covering organ preservation, function and rehabilitation for early laryngeal cancer, advanced laryngeal cancer in the first half of the book and then subsequently oral and pharyngeal cancer management.

In the section on early laryngeal cancer, the authors discuss conservative surgery and then the role of primary radiotherapy before moving onto advanced laryngeal cancer and the role of conservation surgery and chemoradiation. Similarly for oral and pharyngeal cancer, radiation therapy for early oral cancer is discussed but there is no mention of its role in early pharyngeal cancer nor is there any mention of the role of conservation surgery for oral and pharyngeal cancer. The topic of chemoradiation for advanced oral and pharyngeal cancer is well covered.

The chapter on the quality of life assessment is most welcome and reminds the reader how important outcome measures are when treating patients with head and neck cancer.

In summary I think this is an excellent book which should be accessible in the library for those Consultants and trainees who are involved in the modern day treatment of head and neck cancer. My only criticism would be that in line with the title, chapters on salivary glands, the neck and thyroid are notable by their absence. However, despite these minor criticisms, I recommend the book whole heartedly.

J.C. WATKINSON

VOICE PERSPECTIVES

Robert T. Sataloff (ed),
Singular Publishing Group Inc. 1998.
ISBN 1 56593 964 6. Price: £51.00. pp 251.

Voice Perspectives, edited by Dr R.T. Sataloff, is a compilation of the G. Paul Moore lectures, delivered annually at the Voice Foundation Annual Symposium on Care of the Professional Voice. The book encompasses the first 15 lectures, from the inaugural lecture by G. Paul Moore in 1981.

The Voice Foundation was founded in 1972 and has been taken forward successfully over the ensuing two and a half decades. George Paul Moore was one of the original collaborators in the Voice Foundation, and still continues his research activities in Voice. The G. Paul Moore lectureship was created in his honour in 1981. Its aim is for individuals of stature in one of the disciplines of Voice to provide personal, philosophical and historical perspectives. The lectures as presented obviously vary considerably in approach, content and scope. The cementing element is a passion for the new endeavour of voice disorders.

The book in many ways resembles the voyage which the field has undertaken as it has gone from frontier to mainstream. It starts with Moore's inaugural lecture, fittingly on the partnership between Speech Therapy and Laryngology. It is followed by von Leden's superb dissertation on the cultural history of the voice and vocal organ. By 1985 lectures focus on scientific issues; the larynx in comparative anatomy, acoustic measures, vocal mechanisms in singing, unsolved problems in research. The more recent lectures vary between advances in surgical techniques, in the voice laboratory, in our understanding of the mechanical underpinnings of voice, and in use of these advances to improve standards of care and training.

Taken as a whole, the book Voice Perspectives parallels and defines the remarkable interdisciplinary growth that the field of Voice Disorders has experienced. I highly recommend it.

JOHN RUBIN