

Book Reviews

THE YEAR BOOK OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY — HEAD AND NECK SURGERY 1991

Ed. Michael M. Paparella and Byron J. Bailey.
Mosby Year Book: St Louis
ISBN 0 8151 0535 5

This is as good a yearbook as there ever has been. It's as close as it can be to spotting everything of importance and interest. It is, in essence, very American. Its sense of proportion is excellent, identifying the size of the problem in the population, especially that which relates to the deafened population. The book is laid out as a series of small articles, well illustrated with black and white photographs, is extensive, wide ranging and the summaries given are detailed. No cross references of importance are included, as reference is made to modern methods both endoscopic and imaging. Not all parts of otorhinolaryngology are progressing at the same rate and, to achieve some balance, occasionally slightly dated material appears, producing a feeling of *déjà vu*.

For all that, those who use this type of publication for their continuing education will find this one excellent, it will certainly hold their attention and need their close attention since the 297 page slim volume is packed with information.

Peter McKelvie

ADVANCES IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY — HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

Eugene N Myers, Charles Bluestone, Derald E
Brackmann and Charles J Krause
Mosby Year Book, Volume 5, 1991.

This book continues the trend set in previous editions of bringing forward something of interest for everyone working in the field of Otolaryngology.

As might be expected it is almost exclusively an "all American" product — the only exception being a fine chapter on Laryngeal framework surgery by Professor Isshiki of Kyoto University in Japan. Perhaps because of these origins there are inclusions which will find little resonance in our speciality on this side of the Atlantic — most notably those which cover Chemical Face Peeling and Current Techniques in Blepharoplasty. But, these reservations aside, there is much to commend in this volume. Excellent chapters on the treatment of aural atresia, cholesteatoma and stenosis of the larynx in infants and children are presented by acknowledged experts in these fields and are accompanied by a good chapter

which reviews the literature and summarizes the indications for tonsillectomy, adenoidectomy and grommet insertion. These inclusions are married with very readable accounts of the use of MRI in Otolaryngology, the treatment of viral illnesses in ENT and the diagnosis and management of lymphomas in the head and neck.

At a cost price of £51 this book is scarcely cheap and will probably not be widely bought by individuals. However there is much readable and up to date information within it and it is certainly worth borrowing from your local library.

G. S. Kenyon

NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS

Arnold L. Dancer, Donald Henderson, Richard J.
Salvi, Rogen P. Hamernik, Mosby Year Books: St
Louis, 1992.
ISBN: 1 55664 321 7. Price: £43.50.

This is the fourth in a series of books publishing state-of-the-art papers invited from leading world experts on the subject of noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL). The most recent conference, the fourth International Symposium on the Effects of Noise, was held in Beaune, France, May 28th-30th 1990 and the proceedings of the conference forms the basis of this book.

The book contains 47 papers, mostly of about ten pages length, and there is an invaluable 20 pages of index. The text is divided into seven main sections: cochlear mechanisms: central changes: co-factors in development and ageing: performance changes: parameters of exposure: hearing protection: role of the acoustic environment.

Some of the papers comprise new experimental data, and others give a broad review of a particular subject. There is either new material or a useful review on almost every aspect of NIHL, and the index allows a reader enquiring for some particular aspect to locate it with little difficulty. With such a wealth of material for comment, by way of examples the reviewer will restrict himself to aspects of NIHL of particular current interest to himself.

There are two chapters on otoacoustic emissions and NIHL, one by Wilson and the other by Kim and colleagues. The reviewer has recently seen five cases of permanent tinnitus arising immediately after high levels of sound exposure in discotheques, where the tinnitus has been identified as being due to spontaneous otoacoustic emissions, but without any identifiable sign of damage in the pure-tone audiogram. It was therefore of particular interest to him to read theories on how noise can alter emissions and see references to spontaneous emissions appearing after sustained exposure to loud