

OTOLARYNGOLOGY—HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

William L. Meyerhoff, Dale H. Rice
W. B. Saunders Co: Philadelphia. 1992.
ISBN 0 7216 3623 3. Price: £106.00.

This 1139 page work is an attempt to encompass the field of otolaryngology, head and neck, in a single manageable volume. The authors state their intention of covering the speciality more thoroughly than other single volume texts and have recruited a cadre of co-authors 79 strong to help them in their task. The authors also specify that literature review and references were *discouraged* although most chapters have a selection of selected readings and references applicable to the main topic. In the majority of chapters these reading lists are quite brief.

As one would expect with any multi-author work there is considerable variability in the quality of the individual chapters with some high points and some glaring omissions. The book is designed for the North American market and has attempted to cover all areas including basic science and embryology comprehensively. Chapters on geriatric and paediatric aspects of otolaryngology are included and are innovative in such a text and I found them most useful. The organization of the various topics and chapters is handled particularly well and the book is for the main part well supplied with black and white photographs with excellent line drawings. However within the specific chapters there is great variability in presentation of topics and adequate use of tables and diagrams with a tendency for some co-authors to resort to long reams of text unrelieved by sub-headings or tables.

The Chapters dealing with diagnostic imaging together with those dealing with most otologic topics are of particularly high quality. Indeed the book is worth buying for Dr Anthony Mancusos' chapter on imaging alone. This chapter contains an exhaustive survey of imaging techniques and up-to-date indications for their use in otolaryngology. The pros and cons of CT and MRI scanning are fully discussed with excellent schemes for evaluating tumours and disease processes in the head and neck.

However I was surprised to find no chapter or even reference to recent developments in sinus surgery, particularly functional endoscopic sinus surgery (FESS) which is surely one of the major developments in the speciality in the last decade. Furthermore the chapter dealing with the management of OSA, although mentioning conservative or medical management, concentrated on UVPP technique without stating the complications and high failure rate in treating patients with significant obstructive sleep apnoea.

However the authors have produced a substantial volume with many useful aspects and important contributions which should prove successful in its primary North American market.

Charles B. Croft.

COMPLICATIONS IN HEAD AND NECK SURGERY

Josef P. Krespi and Robert H. Ossoff.
W. B. Saunders Company: Philadelphia. 1993.
ISBN 0 7216 2980 6. Price: £57.00.

The continuing development of the specialty of Head and

Neck Surgery has produced extension of techniques in many different areas of the head and neck, with potentially new complications. The two senior authors of this excellent book have acquired a team of contributors who cover both the well established and more recent techniques used in the discipline. In particular free microvascular flap transfers, skull base surgery, and then endoscopic sinus surgery, are given comprehensive coverage. The contributors originate from a wide variety of major American centres and, whilst not all are well-known authors, their combined experience is comprehensive. There is some overlap between chapters and, at times, even disagreement as to the management of specific complications. This does not in itself detract from the book and most chapters can be read in isolation whilst giving a thorough coverage of that particular topic. A few chapters give inadequate information concerning the management of complications but the majority are excellent and I particularly liked the approach to the subject in the chapter on complications associated with Rigid Endoscopic Procedures.

Chapters on anaesthesia, head and neck infection, chemotherapy, radiation therapy and AIDS, complement those covering specific areas of surgery. There is no doubt that this book provides an up-to-date coverage of complications in head and neck surgery and supersedes other similar texts of recent years.

David J. Howard.

DYSPHAGIA: DIAGNOSIS AND MANAGEMENT

Ed. Michael E. Groher. 2nd Edition.
Butterworth, Boston. 1992.
ISBN 0 7506 9078 X. Price: £40.00.

Michael Grober, Chief of Audiology at the University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, has edited the second edition of this book with 13 other specialists including a neurologist, gastroenterologist, occupational therapist, speech pathologist and rehabilitation expert. The title indicates the aim of this book, which is to help those who are involved in the multidisciplinary management of patients with dysphagia. The experts are all involved with the 'subspecialty of dysphagia' and rehabilitation of patients with this disorder, so this book has a different emphasis from the usual books on the oesophagus. There are two introductory chapters on the neurology of swallowing, two pages on benign oesophageal stenosis, two on achalasia and three on reflux disease. There is a good and detailed chapter on impairment of feeding in infancy and childhood by Bosma. There are three chapters on the treatment and management of neurological and mechanical swallowing disorders from the practical point of view of getting fluid and calories into the patient by any means available. Nutrition and nursing are the subjects of a further two chapters, with the final fourteenth one on establishing a swallowing programme.

In 349 pages there is a good description of the practical management of dysphagia by many different experts. Since this is the aim of the editor, rather than to write just another book on the oesophagus, the result must be judged a success. Surgery or endoscopy can not solve all oesophageal problems and other disciplines must provide help. This makes the book rather specialized but it will be valuable for those managing difficult neurological and otorhinolaryngeal swallowing problems.

Richard Earlam.