
BOOK REVIEWS

Ultrasound of the Eye and Orbit

Sandra F. Byrne and Ronald L. Green
Mosby Year Book, St Louis, 1992

This book covers all aspects of ophthalmic ultrasound and is written in a very readable style by two experienced and eminent authors. Basic ultrasonography and ophthalmic examination, together with the various conventions, are described in detail. The ultrasonographic examination of intraocular structures or disease – vitreoretinal disease, trauma, tumours and ocular measurements – are presented in several chapters. The assessment of orbital disease is addressed in the final section of the book, with chapters on examination technique, trauma, orbital tumours, vascular anomalies and diseases of extraocular muscles, optic nerve and periorbital tissues.

The style is excellent: not only are the text and the illustrations lucid, but the subject is also presented in a logical and well-planned manner. Many diseases are described, the reader gaining directly from the wide experience of the authors. There are accompanying line diagrams to enhance interpretation of many of the illustrations, the latter being well labelled and clearly showing the intended detail. The printing, illustrations, binding and editorial care are of the highest quality.

Without doubt, this is an excellent book and a delight to read. I would strongly recommend it to all ophthalmic surgeons with an interest in vitreoretinal disease and ocular trauma, ocular oncology or adnexal disease. There is no question that it should be available in all major ophthalmic libraries.

Geoffrey E. Rose

Surgical Anatomy of the Face

W. F. Larrabee, Jr and K. H. Makielski
Raven Press, New York, 1992

This book presents the anatomy of the face from a surgical point of view. It discusses the various regions in isolation, and has some excellent discussions of the aesthetic and cultural significance of each region. There are delightful and informative discussions of age changes, and their effects on contours.

There is an attempt to discuss the significant parameters in the morphometry of the face. It is mathematically simplistic. Quantification of the facial morphology is extremely complex and is unlikely to yield to their approach. Ultimately it is the total morphological pattern as recognised by the eye and brain that is significant.

The illustrations and artwork are of very high quality. Dr Makielski has produced drawings that are highly informative yet artistically delightful. She has avoided the trap that has caught so many highly skilled illustrators of crowding the drawings with detail. Her drawings portray the essential details with a stark, refreshing clarity. I predict that it will not be long before they begin to appear in other anatomy books.

Above all, this is a book that will allow the intelligent understanding of the surgical procedures on the face in terms of their anatomical infrastructure and the aesthetic outcome.

Noel Dilly