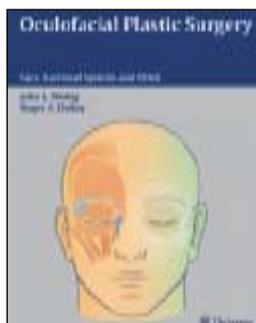


Book Review



Oculofacial plastic surgery (Face, lacrimal system and orbit)

John L. Wobig, Roger A. Dailey

2004;290. p. 477 illustrations, Hardcover, \$149.00 / EUR 149.95, ISBN 158890184x / 3131279214

The Foreword to this book notes that the contributors vary considerably in educational backgrounds, age, practice location and glove size.

The book does not give any evidence of this and this seamless integration deserves due credit to the editors, who have done a splendid job.

For each topic, the book gives a structured and logical progression from Anatomy to Clinical evaluation to Surgery. Each of these sections are dealt with in an excellent fashion. The line drawings are superb and are labeled for clarity.

The topics covered are Facial Anatomy, Upper eyelid and brow, Ptosis, Lower eyelid, Midface, Lower face and Neck in Section 1. Section 2 deals with the Lacrimal system including canaliculi, the sac and the drainage system, while Section 3 describes the Bony orbit, Periorbita including orbital decompression, Orbital fractures and Orbital exenteration / enucleation.

Each of these topics are dealt with in adequate detail without cluttering information like the listing of every possible complication. This does justice to accepting that the target audience is one of mature surgeons.

Explanation of anatomy is lucid and will go a long way to make the reader understand the esoteric anatomy of this region, with direct reference to clinical and surgical viewpoints, ably aided by the drawings. The

concept of eyelid protractors and retractors is well put forth.

The chapter on evaluation of the lacrimal system is indeed a treasure house for the average Plastic surgeon who does not have an ophthalmological background.

Surgical techniques are described in detail and are well illustrated, so that there are no lapses between the picture and text. The pros and cons of techniques are given so that an informed choice can be made

That the book does not impart only knowledge but also provides 'wisdom' is obvious from the comments in the chapter on facial rejuvenation and the surgery of ptosis.

Typographical errors are rare and the only nitpicking that can be done is with the use of 1;100,000, adrenaline and the use of antibiotic ointments for a long time. One topic that could be given exposure (possibly in a subsequent edition), is secondary surgery of the contracted socket-post enucleation.

All in all, I think this book is an invaluable addition to the library of any surgeon interested in working in this area. And I can only hope that the price does not preclude this acquisition.

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