

Book Reviews

B. Raymond Fink, M.D., Editor

Facial Pain. Second edition. EDITED BY C. C. ALLING, III, and P. E. MAHAN. Philadelphia, Lea and Febiger, 1977. Pages: 286. Price: \$22.00.

The first edition of *Facial Pain* was the result of a symposium organized by the American Society of Oral Surgeons, and had a definite symposium flavor. The present edition has been rearranged, and the additions make it a more readable text for the training of medical and dental residents, as well as undergraduate students. It fills a void that has been present for some time. Although in the literature on pain there are some excellent books containing chapters on facial pain, none has as broad a scope or contain as complete a dissertation of the various facial pain entities as this text.

The second edition has been considerably updated, with the inclusion of many recent advances in the field of pain, especially well delineated by J. J. Bonica. The new chapter on anatomy by J. Gregg, though perhaps a bit deep for the student and general practitioner, is excellent. The chapter on occlusion by J. Birch will appeal to the dental profession and should be in the office library of any dentist who wishes to use occlusal equilibration for the relief of facial pain.

There is some overlap in various aspects of the pain syndromes, but the views of the various contributors in their specialty fields are so interesting and well done that this overlap is of little consequence. Although the book is well illustrated, there are several areas where additional diagrams and illustrations would be of help, especially for the student or neophyte. The bibliography and references at the end of each chapter will be invaluable for further study.

I recommend this text to anyone interested in the field of pain, particularly oral surgeons, otolaryngologists, anesthesiologists, neurologists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, and psychiatrists, as well as to researchers. Certainly, every oral surgery training program should have it available to and should require it to be read by all residents. Although not strictly a textbook, it could well be used in both medical and dental schools as a comprehensive text for the study of facial pain.

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Operative Obstetrics. BY M. KERR. Ninth edition. Baltimore, Williams and Wilkins, 1977. Pages: 882. Price: \$48.00.

Handbook of Obstetrics & Gynecology. Sixth edition. BY R. C. BENSON. Los Altos, California, Lange Medical Publications, 1977. Pages: 772. Price: \$9.50.

Each of these new editions of texts on obstetrics contains a chapter dealing with analgesia and anesthesia for labor and delivery. In the hardcover *Operative Obstetrics* the chapter was written by Dr. James Wilson, consultant anesthetist to the Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion and the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh, while in the softcover handbook, it was written by the author, a clinical professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The difference between the two chapters in both quality and currency of information is astounding.

Wilson's chapter is intended not only for the trained but also and primarily for the occasional anesthetist and one should,

therefore, not complain about certain omissions, such as the problem of "shunting" in aspiration pneumonitis or the place of PEEP in its treatment. The discussion represents the views of the author; thus, one cannot argue about such statements as "there are no absolute indications for using spinal (subarachnoid) analgesia." The chapter includes the pharmacology of drugs employed in both general anesthesia and regional and local analgesia, descriptions of equipment and techniques utilized, and discussion of the common complications associated with obstetric analgesia-anesthesia. The equipment mentioned is restricted to that popular in Great Britain. The text is informative and well written, and emphasizes important aspects; the illustrations are plentiful and of good quality, and the bibliography is more than adequate. This chapter will be of benefit to interested obstetricians and medical students, as well as to fledgling anesthesiologists. Unfortunately, recent findings regarding low-dose ketamine or neonatal pharmacology and neurobehavioral aspects of different local anesthetics are not mentioned. Based on the general excellence of the chapter, one must assume a prolonged lag between completion of the manuscript and final printing of the book.

Benson's chapter, in contrast, abounds with outdated statements and discussion of obsolete anesthetic methods. As an example of the former, it is stated that concentrations of thiopental will be equal in fetal and maternal blood in less than 7 minutes after injection into the mother's vein. As examples of the latter, caudal block and trichloroethylene analgesia are described, while lumbar extradural block and methoxyflurane are not even mentioned. Furthermore, there are grave omissions in the presentation of maternal physiologic considerations. For instance, the concept of aortocaval compression is not alluded to once in the 451 pages on obstetrics, and only one cursory reference is made to supine hypotension.

Comparison of the two chapters demonstrates unequivocally that single authorship of medical books is no longer appropriate. With the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH) requiring equal qualities of anesthesia for surgical and obstetric procedures, it is only rational that texts on obstetric anesthesia be written by anesthesiologists.

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Clinical and Resuscitative Data. BY R. P. H. DUNNHILL and B. E. CRAWLEY. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott, 1977. Pages: 166. Price: \$13.75.

This little manual is a compendium of useful information, related to intensive care. It is concise, well organized, and suited to quick reference and review, with compilations of data on: Weights and measures; Surface area nomograms; Normal laboratory; Fluid and electrolyte therapy; Emergency drugs, dosage and overdosage; Local anesthetics and dermatomes; Pulmonary and cardiac function.

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