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Surgical anatomy of the hand and upper extremity

Edited by *J. R. Doyle* and *M. J. Botte*.

Pp 783. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2003.

ISBN: 0-397517254. £167.00.

This is a quite exceptional textbook on surgical anatomy of the hand and upper extremity. It is over 700 pages long and deals in detail with both systematic and regional anatomy. The first section deals with the skeleton, muscle, nerve and vascular anatomy to the hand and upper limb. I particularly like the quality of the illustrations and I am impressed by the detailed referencing in each section; for example the section on muscle anatomy has 664 references. By this means the reader is able to find any original reference they may require. The regional anatomy section covers in detail the brachial plexus, and its distribution through the arm, elbow, forearm, wrist and hand. Beautiful colour anatomical dissections and clinical photographs complement the line drawings in each chapter. My only criticism of the colour photographs is that the labelling in some is difficult to read because black lettering is used on a dark background.

The final section of the text is an appendix dealing with anatomical signs, syndromes, tests and eponyms. I found this interesting since it included some signs of which I was previously unaware. Each is clearly referenced.

This is a very worthwhile book for any hand and upper limb specialist and it would be valuable to have in the operating room for those situations when a variation in the normal anatomy is discovered unexpectedly!

D. Stanley

Shoulder surgery: principles and procedures

Edited by *Frederick A. Matsenthree* and *Stephen B. Lippitt*.

Pp 744. USA: W. B. Saunders, 2004. ISBN 0-7216-9598-1. £99.99.

This is a coffee-table sized book full of clear drawings and diagrams which require minimal text for explanation and take the reader clearly through topics and discussion. Following a brief section on the principles of patient selection, shoulder radiology and rehabilitation, it is divided into six practical sections covering conditions affecting mobility, stability, strength, fractures and revision surgery. Each of these topics is then reviewed in mechanical terms with the help of diagrams followed by the surgical treatment of abnormalities encountered under each heading. The operative sequences are clearly developed but perhaps make the operations look somewhat easier than they usually are.

The principles and practice of shoulder replacement and revision surgery are particularly well covered and in some depth. Some may find the section on the biomechanics of shoulder stability needs to be read and re-read for it to be fully understood. All in all a very useful book to have on the shelf for the Year 5/6 trainee who intends to become a shoulder surgeon as well as for the enthusiast who is looking for a new way to cope with difficult fractures of the proximal humerus or difficult revisions of joint replacement.

P. Baird

After Charnley

Edited by *J. C. Faux*.

Pp 256. UK: John Charnley Trust and Colt Books Ltd, 2002.

ISBN: 0-9545229-0-7. £25.00.

Although this collection of essays was completed in 2002, it is only now available, presumably because of delay in getting its dust cover and ISBN number but the wait is worthwhile. The book is entertaining, educational and of great historical value. The contributors are among the giants in orthopaedics during the last 40 years. Chris Faux has done a great job in getting them all together.

After an opening chapter of Henry Mankin's heroes of medicine which includes Charnley as a frontrunner, we are given an anthology of total joint arthroplasty and all that has made it possible by collaborators, disciples, admirers and friends. We have the history and future of hip replacement with contributions from Mike Wroblewski, Kevin Hardinge, Maurice Müller, Chris Faux, Nas Eftekhari, the Ling/Lee team from Exeter, John Callaghan, Richard Johnston, David Halley and William Harris. Maurice Müller's essay, in particular, reflects the mutual respect and friendship between Charnley and the Swiss School. There are spin-offs in many directions. David Dandy, Mike Freeman and George Bentley take us through soft-tissue knee surgery, knee replacement and grafting of osteochondral allografts respectively. There are informative articles on clinical trials (Jeremy Fairbank), ultra clean air systems (Hugh Howarth), imaging techniques (Brian Kendall), continuous passive motion (Bob Salter), hand surgery (John Stanley), AVN in the growing femoral head (Tony Catterall), nerve injuries (Rolfe Birch) and polytrauma (Martin Allgower and Daniel Sheidegger).

It is great to have been in orthopaedics during the Charnley and post-Charnley eras. This book reminds us of the astonishing achievements of the past four decades. At the risk of being picky, Chris Faux might have included an essay or two reflecting Charnley's other major contributions, each of which would have satisfied any ordinary orthopaedic surgeon in his worthy life. I refer, of course, to closed treatment of fractures and compression arthrodesis. But this book is beyond price, entertainingly portraying the passage of a great man and a memorable era for orthopaedics.

D. Jones