BOOK REVIEW

Eyelid Surgery, Principles and Techniques. By Clinton D McCord, Jr. Pp 400. \$149. Philadelphia: Lippincott-Raven, 1995.

In an era of ever larger, multiauthored textbooks, this book is a very readable 400 pages and is unique in its single authored writings based on the 30 year personal experience of a recognised authority and pioneer in the field of oculoplastic surgery. Of the 29 chapters in this textbook, 25 are written from an oculoplastic perspective by Dr McCord, and four chapters are co-authored with general plastic surgical experts Drs M A Codner and T R Hester. This book covers comprehensively the diagnosis and surgical treatment of virtually all eyelid problems that a practising physician is likely to encounter.

The 29 chapters in this text include: nine chapters related to eyelid malpositions (entropion, ectropion, ptosis, and eyelid retraction), seven chapters related to blepharoplasty and brow lift procedures, seven chapters on eyelid reconstruction (upper lid, lower lid, inner canthus, outer canthus, eyelid neoplasms, and eyelid trauma), four chapters of general interest (anatomy, principles of wound closure, reconstructive tissue flaps, and free tissue graft techniques), a chapter on facial paralysis, and a chapter devoted to upper eyelid crease and superior sulcus surgical techniques.

The surgical techniques presented are time honoured procedures based on sound anatomical principles, and are presented in adequate descriptive detail to give the reader a good understanding of the procedures. Throughout the book, ample illustrations accompany the text, with diagrams drawn in a frontal view and, often cross sectional view to bring maximum clarity to the surgical technique that is presented. Many black and white intraoperative photographs are included to give the reader the true 'flavour' of the surgical procedure.

The ptosis related changes are particularly excellent. Dr McCord gives appropriate emphasis to repairing acquired levator dehiscence ptosis with an external levator aponeurosis advancement technique, in lieu of the popular (but inferior) Fasanella-Servat internal tarsectomy procedure. These chapters cover many important (though often under-recognised) ptosis problems including: upper lid lateral tarsal shift, upper lid instability requiring horizontal tightening, eyelid crease problems, and the treatment of ptosis surgery complications. The ptosis chapters discuss a variety of useful techniques for ptosis surgery quantitation, though the author appropriately emphasises that each surgeon must adjust any ptosis 'formula' to his or her own technique.

The blepharoplasty chapters comprehensively cover basic and advanced surgical techniques including many 'extras' such as translid brow-plasty fat removal, Asian blepharoplasty, and an excellent chapter on blepharoplasty complications and their treatment. Drs Hester, Codner, and McCord describe an innovative, extended

lower lid blepharoplasty technique combined with a subperiosteal malar cheek lift in chapter 16. I would also recommend that any surgeon performing cosmetic blepharoplasty should be sure to read Dr McCord's favourite 'words' list on page 164 under the section 'Preoperative communication and psychological management of the patient'.

The eyelid reconstruction chapters cover all basic and many advanced techniques. These reconstructive chapters, as well as those on eyelid malposition, emphasise replacement of eyelid tissue deficiencies with appropriate tissue grafts as an important surgical principle. Dr McCord comprehensively presents his system of eyelid repair in a combined illustration and table format in chapter 24 'Decision making in eyelid reconstruction'.

In summary, I would recommend this book highly to any surgeon with an interest in eyelid surgery. This text covers all the basics necessary for a beginner, yet has ample material to be of use and interest to the subspecialist with significant experience and expertise.

MYRON TANENBAUM

NOTICES

Course for Standardised Ophthalmic Echography

A course for standardised ophthalmic echography will be held at the IInd University Eye Hospital, University of Vienna, Austria, on 26-31 August 1996. Further details: Professor Dr P Till, IInd University Eye Hospital Vienna, AKH, Wöhringer Gürtel 18-20, 1090 Vienna, Austria.

International Congress New Developments in Ophthalmology 1996

An international congress on 'New developments in ophthalmology' will be held on 29-31 August 1996 in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. Further details: Professor Dr AF Deutman/Mrs Y Hennink, University Hospital, Department of Ophthalmology, PO Box 9101, 6500 HB Nijmegen, the Netherlands. (Tel: (31) 24 361 5105; Fax: (31) 24 3540522.)

European Association for Study of Diabetes (EASDEC)

The study group on eye complications of the European Association for Study of Diabetes (EASDEC) will hold its 6th meeting on 31 August-1 September 1996 at the Bristol Hotel, Vienna, Austria in conjunction with the 32nd annual meeting of the EASD. Further details: Mondial Congress, Faulmannsgasse 4, A-1040 Vienna, Austria. (Tel: +43 1 58804 0; Fax: +43 1 5869185.)

Baylor/Welsh Cataract & Refractive Surgical Congress 1996

The Baylor/Welsh Cataract & Refractive Surgical Congress 1996 will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Houston, Texas on 5-7 September 1996. Further details: Eula Mae Childs, Cullen Eye Institute, Baylor College of Medicine, 6501 Fannin (NC200), Houston, TX 77030, USA. (Tel: 713-798-5941; Fax: 713-798-4364.)

International Symposium on Fluorescence Angiography

The International Symposium on Fluorescence Angiography will be held at the University of St Gall, St Gall, Switzerland on 8-12 September 1996. Further details: ISFA'96, c/o AKM Congress Service, Clarastrasse 57, PO Box, CH-4005 Basel, Switzerland. (Tel: ++41 61 691 51 11; Fax: ++41 61 691 81 89.)

British and Eire Association of Vitreo-Retinal Surgeons (BEAVRS)

The next meeting of the British and Eire Association of Vitreo-Retinal Surgeons (BEAVRS) will be held at the Manor House Hotel, Morehampstead, Devon on 17-18 October 1996. Further details: Mrs Jill Gledhill, Torbay Hospital, Lawes Bridge, Torquay TQ2 7AA. (Tel: 01803 654825; Fax: 01803 655011.)

Hong Kong Ophthalmological Symposium '96

The Hong Kong Ophthalmological Symposium '96 on retinal disease will take place on 14-15 December 1996 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center. Further details: Dr Barry Yeung, Symposium Secretary, Hong Kong Ophthalmological Society, University Eye Centre, 3/F, Hong Kong Eye Hospital, 147K Argyle Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong. (Tel: 2761 9128; Fax: 2715 0089.)

2nd International and 4th European Congress on Ambulatory Surgery

The 2nd International and 4th European Congress on Ambulatory Surgery will be held at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, London on 15-18 April 1997. Further details: Congress Secretariat, Kite Communications, The Silk Mill House, 196 Huddersfield Road, Meltham, West Yorkshire HD7 3AP. (Tel: +44 1484 854575; Fax: +44 1484 854576.)

2nd International Symposium on ARMD

The 2nd International Symposium on ARMD will be held at Glasgow University, Scotland under the auspices of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists on 16-18 September 1997. Further details: Dr G E Marshall, Eye Department, Western Infirmary, 38 Church Street, Glasgow G11 6NT, UK. (Tel: 0141 211 2094; Fax: 0141 339 7485; email: gem1b@clinmed.GLA.AC.UK.)