The authors have no proprietary or commercial interest in the findings presented.

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2 McGhee CN, Bryce IG, Anastas CA. Consolidating the association between Goldmann application IOP measurement and pho-
4 John CE. Reduced intraocular pressure after phacoemulsification and posterior chamber in-
5 Wheeler NG, Lee DA, Cheng Q, et al. Reproduc-

BOOK REVIEWS


LASIK requires meticulous planning and rig-
orous attention to detail in preparation as the technology is very precise and there is little room for improvisation within the practice of the procedure. To learn such a technique can be challenging, especially when it is to be per-
fected by an individual surgeon. Those with a strong track record in LASIK and refractive surgery, and who have published their own learning curves in peer reviewed journals, will find useful information provided in this book.

Section 2 comprises 31 cases in which there were complicating factors or unusual patient characteristics—for example, the effects of pupil size, occult preoperative keratoconus, and other unmasked corneal topographical anomalies. The authors advise on other modalities of refractive surgery which may be more appropriate. Surgical complications such as free caps, thin flaps, incomplete passes of the microkeratome, etc are included. Individual case reports of LASIK in patients who previously underwent epikeratoplasty and penetrating keratoplasty are included as worked examples. I felt the cases were most helpful, but the layout of the refractive/visual data might have been more tabulated—if tabulated—there is plenty of space.

In summary, I think this is a most valuable book for both the aspiring and experienced LASIK surgeon, and will help in the early learning curve and “getting used to using” the technique. Advice is well directed so that the reader may make correct patient selection, counsel patients realistically, acquire a slick technique, and deliver thoughtful aftercare. It is the intention to put the surgeon and, thus, the patient at ease.

The text addresses the surgical minutiae that are most important to success. The tech-
niques and tips are apposite, and expectations realistic given the limitations of the technique in its current form. The avoidance of potential difficulties is particularly strongly stressed but, in the event, the management is dealt with simply and without embarrassment—for all every one has a learning curve. The book therefore acts as a reliable tutor during this period. Nevertheless, there is no true substi-
tute for hands-on experience, although it can be reassuring that the book provides support and knowledge that someone has been there before and can provide some access, and evidence based advice in adversity.

I did not think that this book was especially directed at the advanced surgeon, although they will find useful material and techniques with particular emphasis on complex conditions and retreatment options.
The question of course is who is the target audience for this book. While it’s nicely put together and well illustrated, one would think that the average registrar (or resident) after a year or so of training will have already accumulated most of the information provided in this book. Is the book therefore really meant to be an encore for ophthalmologists in training? If so, more introductory information at the beginning of each chapter would certainly be helpful. Finally, while it’s clear that this is meant to be a short approach to the differential diagnosis of ophthalmic disorders a few references at the end of each chapter would be useful, particularly for students who might use this book. Nevertheless, this is a relatively inexpensive, well illustrated presentation of the differential diagnosis of common ophthalmic disorders.

J A SCOTT


To a non-ophthalmic oncologist this book was a delight to read. The script, illustrations, and format made for light work, without losing emphasis, on referencing statements made and keeping correlative imaging (particularly enjoyable the emphasis on echography) and histology. The book begins with basic examination techniques, and then covers each tissue from conjunctiva to retina with the anatomy that occur at these sites (starting logically with the most common first!). There are, additionally, dedicated chapters on lymphoid tumours, metastasis, and paraneoplastic syndromes. An enjoyable end for the non-specialist are the chapters on treatments including radiotherapy, surgery, and phototherapy. This book needs no further review except to say I think it meets its aims in delivering, very enjoyably, general information well for quick reference. Considerable detail is provided that will satisfy all but the most curious, who are provided with comprehensive and well selected references.

The text is intuitively divided into 11 digestible chapters, covering psychophysics, examination strategies, alternative perimetric tests, extraneous factors affecting the visual field, visual pathways, differential diagnosis, glaucoma, screening, defect quantification, practical advice, and instrumentation. The author urges novice perimetrists to start at the beginning where he takes readers to derive at their leisure. A short glossary is available to help interpret perimetric jargon.

Revisions made from the 1993 edition deal with new developments that are now commercially available: newer thresholding strategies (Swedish Interactive Thresholding Algorithms, Tendency Oriented Perimetry, FastMAP), new instrumentation, alternative techniques (short wavelength automated perimetry, frequency doubling technology perimetry), and well thought out information and clinical advice on monitoring for progressive visual loss. Of particular interest are the screening and defect quantification sections that present a thorough, balanced synopsis of facts that can take years to assimilate from abundant perimetric literature. The only minor disappointment is that the author does not comment on the wealth of perimetric research designed to provide insight into mechanisms of cell death in early glaucoma.

In summary, this revised edition is a highly readable text that provides useful information for all involved with assessment of the visual field.

PAUL G D SPRY
Office of Continuing Medical Education

A symposium “Randomised trials in ophthalmology: past, present, future” will be held 2–3 April 2001 at the Thomas B Turner Building, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. Further details: Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Office of Continuing Medical Education, Turner 20, 720 Rutland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21205-2195, USA (tel: (410) 955-2959; fax: (410) 955-0807; email: cmenet@jhmi.edu).

American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine—Millennium Ultrasound Course Series

A course entitled “Obstetrical and Gynaecological Ultrasound” will be held in New York City, NY, on 24–26 August 2001. Further details: Stacey Bessling, Public Relations Coordinator, AIUM, 14750 Sweitzer Lane, Suite 100, Laurel, MD 20707-5906, USA (tel: 301-498-4100; email: sbessling@aium.org).

31st Cambridge Ophthalmological Symposium

The 31st Cambridge Ophthalmological Symposium will be held 3–5 September 2001 at St John’s College Cambridge. The subject is Retinal Detachment. Further details: COS Secretariat, Cambridge Conferences, The Lawn, 33 Church Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge CB2 5EL, UK (tel: 01223 847464; fax: 01223 847465; email: b.ashworth@easynet.co.uk).

4th International Conference on the Adjuvant Therapy of Malignant Melanoma

The 4th International Conference on the adjuvant therapy of malignant melanoma will be held at The Royal College of Physicians, London on 15–16 March 2002. Further details: Conference Secretariat, CCI Ltd, 2 Palmerston Court, Palmerston Way, London SW8 4AJ, UK (tel: +44 (0)20 7720 0600; fax: +44 (0)20 7720 7177; email: melanoma@confcomm.co.uk; website: www.confcomm.co.uk/Melanoma).

International Society for Behçet’s Disease

The International Society for Behçet’s Disease was inaugurated at the 9th International Congress on Behçet’s Disease. Professor Shigeaki Ohno represents the ophthalmology division (Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Hokkaido University Graduate School of Medicine, Sapporo, Japan: tel: +81-11-716-1161 (ext 5944); fax +81-11-736-0692; email: sohno@med.hokudai.ac.jp). The 10th International Congress on Behçet’s Disease will be held in Berlin 27–29 June 2002. Further details: Professor Ch Zouboulis (email: zoubbere@zedat.fu-berlin.de).
Cataract lens extraction and posterior chamber lens implantation in Korean subjects

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