BOOK REVIEWS


There have been major changes in the basic concepts of glaucoma since the first edition seven years ago, particularly with the understanding that factors other than intraocular pressure are important. This has resulted in a new definition of glaucoma as "a characteristic, and the Association of Optical Practitioners. The authors come therefore from a wide spectrum of disciplines interested in the control and driving of all kinds of vehicles, not only road going vehicles. Their interests include vehicle design, vehicle environment and highway design, and driving, as well as optical, ophthalmic, and psychophysical aspects of vehicle control. Papers are presented from optometrists, ophthalmologists, research scientists, psychologists, ergonomists, and vehicle and highway designers. There is considerable input from the road and traffic research institutes—what is, Road Research Laboratory (UK), INRETS (France) and industrial research departments from the USA, and the United Kingdom.

Chapter 1 is broadly confined to driving simulator studies, chapter 2 relates to driver perception, and chapter 3 to cognitive aspects of driving with several psychophysical papers. There is here an important paper from Land and Horwood, on head and eye movements during driving, and at intersections. Papers on topics such as pole curves, and time to coincidence judgments are of most relevance to applied vision psychologists.

Chapters 4–8 relate to vehicle guidance systems and to vision in restricted visibility. These papers on vehicle ergonomics are mainly of interest to vehicle designers.

Ophthalmologists will be most interested in chapter 5 (Land and Horwood as above) and chapters 7 and 9, with papers on visual impairment, an excellent optometric overview by Wood and Troutbeck, older drivers needs, visual fields in diabetics, contrast sensitivity through tinted windscreens, and antireflection coated spectacle lenses. In chapter 9 there are papers on saccades and the effect of alcohol on driving.

This book is required reading for those interested in the whole spectrum of highway and vehicle design and ergonomics, as well as driver visual performance.

GREG MUNTON


This book is aimed at the trainee ophthalmologist starting his first post in ophthalmology who has a steep learning curve with much new information and new skills to acquire. The intention is that the reader should learn good clinical practice from the start. The reader may wish to use the book as reading before clinical contact, but also as a reference manual to allow the correct performance of simple tasks.

The introduction expounds not only the virtues of ophthalmology itself, but also the virtues experienced during his apprenticeship and later in his career, and the responsibilities, stresses, and ethics incumbent upon this. The duty of the trainee for continuance education is also underlined.

The process of history taking and clinical assessment is then elaborated upon. The more common methods of examination are described with explicit instructions in a clear manner, with explanation of the process and the logic behind data collection and interpretation of visual function (acuity and refraction, binocularity) is dealt with in detail for both adults and children, as is the ocular motility examination with useful end of chapter summaries for the reader. Visual field testing is dealt with in a separate chapter with explanation and interpretation of the automated perimeter output. A useful chapter on the slit lamp is included with hands on tips and pertinent illustrations. External, anterior segment, and posterior segment examinations are dealt with in depth with explanation of normal (and normal ranges) as well as abnormal findings which the tyro will find useful. Advice regarding use of the indirect ophthalmoscopic methods with "hands on" tips is clear and well illustrated. The posterior segment chapter deals at length with the visualisation of the fundus and recording this by drawings. Likewise the external examination shows not only how to examine, but also to record lid and pterygium findings. I would have been pleased to have seen greater emphasis on similar schemes for the recording of anterior segment and corneal changes (for example, Waring and Laibson) and diagrammatic recording of strabismus (for example, Vivian and Morriss, Kaye et al)—systems gaining wider popularity which allow quantitative evaluation over long periods for different observers.

The book ends with management of emergencies and trauma and finally appendices with pharmacological information regarding diagnostic and therapeutic agents.

This book is written in a very readable style with good illustrations, tables, summaries, and practical instructions for performing specific tasks. The British trained reader will have to adjust to the US terminology for therapeutics, units of measurement, and some aspects of practice. This book does, however, provide an excellent source of the information and material that is often not easily accessible in written form to the novice ophthalmologist, and crystallises that which is usually passed on by word of mouth from his immediate seniors, some of which may have lost or gained its authenticity in the mists of time like much passed down in the oral tradition! Reading this book before encountering the patient will enhance the practice of the trainee. He will not, however, find it easy to carry in his pocket, nor is it encyclopaedic or exhaustive in its coverage. I was surprised at the omission of biometry technique, Frisyth test, temporal artery biopsy, and only fleeting reference to the use of Bagolini glasses and Ishihara plates, while the text devoted to the Schiotz tonometer may be superfluous in contemporary UK practice. The index was clear, but I found this book to better if read in chapters rather than dipped into as a reference text. I would recommend ophthalmologists starting out on their careers to read it, and at the very beginning of their training.

J A SCOTT

NOTICES

Residents' Foreign Exchange Programme

Any resident interested in spending a period of up to one month in departments of ophthalmology in the Netherlands, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Denmark, France, Austria, or Portugal should apply to Mr Robert Acheson, Secretary of the Foreign Exchange Committee, European Board of Ophthalmology, Institute of Ophthalmology, University College Dublin, 60 Eccles Street, Dublin 7, Ireland.


This book is a collation of the papers given at the Fifth International Conference on Vision in Vehicles at the University of Glasgow, 1993. The sponsors of the conference are jointly the Applied Vision Society, the Ergonomics Societies, and the optics of the eye behind the eye... and signification of visual function (acuity and refraction, binocularity) is dealt with in detail for both adults and children, as is the ocular motility examination with useful end of chapter summaries for the... manual to allow the correct performance of simple tasks.

The introduction expounds not only the virtues of ophthalmology itself, but also the virtues experienced during his apprenticeship and later in his career, and the responsibilities, stresses, and ethics incumbent upon this. The duty of the trainee for continuing education is also underlined.

The process of history taking and clinical assessment is then elaborated upon. The more common methods of examination are described with explicit instructions in a clear manner, with explanation of the process and the logic behind data collection and interpretation of visual function (acuity and refraction, binocularity) is dealt with in detail for both adults and children, as is the ocular motility examination with useful end of chapter summaries for the... Visual field testing is dealt with in a separate chapter with explanation and interpretation of the automated perimeter output. A useful chapter on the slit lamp is included with hands on tips and pertinent illustrations. External, anterior segment, and posterior segment examinations are dealt with in depth with explanation of normal (and normal ranges) as well as abnormal findings which the tyro will find useful. Advice regarding use of the indirect ophthalmoscopic methods with "hands on" tips is clear and well illustrated. The posterior segment chapter deals at length with the visualisation of the fundus and recording this by drawings. Likewise the external examination shows not only how to examine, but also to record lid and pterygium findings. I would have been pleased to have seen greater emphasis on similar schemes for the recording of anterior segment and corneal changes (for example, Waring and Laibson) and diagrammatic recording of strabismus (for example, Vivian and Morriss, Kaye et al)—systems gaining wider popularity which allow quantitative evaluation over long periods for different observers.

The book ends with management of emergencies and trauma and finally appendices with pharmacological information regarding diagnostic and therapeutic agents.

This book is written in a very readable style with good illustrations, tables, summaries, and practical instructions for performing specific tasks. The British trained reader will have to adjust to the US terminology for therapeutics, units of measurement, and some aspects of practice. This book does, however, provide an excellent source of the information and material that is often not easily accessible in written form to the novice ophthalmologist, and crystallises that which is usually passed on by word of mouth from his immediate seniors, some of which may have lost or gained its authenticity in the mists of time like much passed down in the oral tradition! Reading this book before encountering the patient will enhance the practice of the trainee. He will not, however, find it easy to carry in his pocket, nor is it encyclopaedic or exhaustive in its coverage. I was surprised at the omission of biometry technique, Frisyth test, temporal artery biopsy, and only fleeting reference to the use of Bagolini glasses and Ishihara plates, while the text devoted to the Schiotz tonometer may be superfluous in contemporary UK practice. The index was clear, but I found this book to better if read in chapters rather than dipped into as a reference text. I would recommend ophthalmologists starting out on their careers to read it, and at the very beginning of their training.

J A SCOTT

NOTICES

Residents' Foreign Exchange Programme

Any resident interested in spending a period of up to one month in departments of ophthalmology in the Netherlands, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Denmark, France, Austria, or Portugal should apply to Mr Robert Acheson, Secretary of the Foreign Exchange Committee, European Board of Ophthalmology, Institute of Ophthalmology, University College Dublin, 60 Eccles Street, Dublin 7, Ireland.
Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute

The Johns Hopkins Medical Institution/Residents Association of the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute is holding its 57th clinical meeting at the Baltimore-Turner Auditorium, JHH on 1–2 May 1998. Further details: Ms Sharon Welling, Conference Coordinator, Wilmer B20 – Johns Hopkins Hospital, 600 North Wolfe Street, Baltimore, MD 21287-5001, USA. (Tel: 410-955-5700; fax: 410-614-9632).

4th International Vitreoretinal Meeting

The 4th International Vitreoretinal Meeting will be held in Parma, Italy on 29–30 May 1998 at the University Eye Clinic. Further details: C Cantù and M A De Giovanni, Institute of Ophthalmology, University of Parma, Via Gramsci 14 – 43100 Parma, Italy. (Fax: ++39-521-292358; email: gnuzzi@rsadvnet.it)

11th Annual Meeting of German Ophthalmic Surgeons

The 11th Annual Meeting of German Ophthalmic Surgeons will be held on 28–31 May 1998 in the Meistersingerhalle, Nürnberg, Germany. Further details: Organisation Nürnberg GmbH, Wielandstrasse 6, D-90419 Nürnberg, Germany. (Tel: +49-911-331204).

9th British Association of Day Surgery Annual Scientific Meeting and Exhibition

The 9th British Association of Day Surgery Annual Scientific Meeting and Exhibition will take place at the Harrogate International Centre on 4–6 June 1998. Further details: Kite Communications, The Silk Mill House, 196 Huddersfield Road, Meltham, W Yorks HD7 3AP. (Tel: 01484 854575; fax: 01484 854576; email info@kitecomms.co.uk)

XVIIth International Congress of Ophthalmology

The XVIIth International Congress of Ophthalmology will be held in Amsterdam on 21–26 June 1998. Further details: Eurocongress Conference Management, Jan van Goyenkade 11, 1075 HP Amsterdam, Netherlands. (Tel: +31-20-6793411; fax: +31-20-6737306; internet http://www.solution.nl/ico-98/)

First Combined International Symposium on Ocular Immunology and Inflammation

The First Combined International Symposium on Ocular Immunology and Inflammation will be held in Amsterdam on 27 June–1 July 1998. The meeting is sponsored by the International Ocular Immunology and Inflammation Society, the International Uveitis Study Group, and the Immunology and Immunopathology of the Eye Organisation. Further details: Professor Aize Kijlstra, The Netherlands Ophthalmic Research Institute, PO Box 12141, 1100 AC Amsterdam, Netherlands (email: a.kijlstra@amc.uva.nl)

2nd International Conference on Ocular Infections

The 2nd International Conference on Ocular Infections will be held on 22–26 August 1998 in Munich, Germany. Further details: Professor J Frucht-Pery, 2nd International Conference on Ocular Infections, PO Box 50006, Tel Aviv, 61500, Israel. (Tel: 972 3 5140000; fax: 972 3 5175674 or 5140077; email: ocular@kernes.com)

ICOP 98

The next International Conference in Ophthalmic Photography (ICOP) will be held on 19–21 September 1998. Further details: Mrs Gillian Bennerston, Senior Ophthalmic Photographer, Bristol Eye Hospital, Lower Maudlin Street, Bristol BS1 2LX. (Tel: 0117-928-4677).

IXth International Symposium on Graves’ Ophthalmology

The IXth International Symposium on Graves’ Ophthalmology will be held on 27–28 November 1998 in Amsterdam. Further details: Amsterdam Thyroid Club, Department of Endocrinology, F5-171, Academisch Medisch Centrum, Meibergdreef 9, 1105 AZ Amsterdam, Netherlands.

XII Congress European Society of Ophthalmology

The XII Congress European Society of Ophthalmology will be held in Stockholm, Sweden on 27 June–1 July 1999. Further details: Congress (Sweden) AB, PO Box 5819, S-114 86 Stockholm, Sweden. Tel: +46 8 459 66 00; fax: +46 8 661 91 25; email: soe@congrex.se; http://www.congrex.com/soe/