

particularly important to understand that this nerve does supply the carpal joints and may in fact communicate with other peripheral nerves to appreciate some of the problems of the pain in the wrist and hand.

There is a short, succinct chapter on the recovery of nerve function after replantation and transplant although this does not perhaps fit into the general theme of the book. However, an intriguing statement is made that the 2 point discrimination in the skin of the toe may be improved after transfer to a digit. Although few surgeons in the western world see patients suffering from leprosy, the chapter on the hand in leprosy is a most valuable contribution not only describing details of this disease but also outlining the most important principles involved in the treatment of the hand affected by leprosy. This is followed by a section dealing with traumatic brachial plexus injuries, which includes a very good historical survey putting the problem into correct perspective, and it is summed up by an outline of the unsolved problems and indicating that much progress is yet to be made.

There is an excellent account of the upper limb and hand in traumatic tetraplegia with an important and informative contribution from the author's own experience. Highlighted are the vital role played by the therapist and careful postoperative management.

Although the third section of the book is the shortest it does contain three of the most important topics in the management of patients with paralysed hands. The chapter on the biomechanics of tendon transfer is extremely valuable to any surgeon intending to undertake this type of operation. It emphasises choosing the correct type of muscle for transfer with its correct excursion and the importance played by loss of compliance. Pain is a very difficult problem in a paralysed hand. Difficulty is experienced in its understanding by both the surgeon and the patient. The neurophysiology of pain is clearly outlined though perhaps the ideas put forward as to the control of afferent pain impulses stray into theory rather than fact. There is a very helpful discussion about reflex sympathetic dystrophy.

The book ends with a consideration of the role of the therapist in rehabilitation of the paralysed hand. Although this is a good chapter, it would have been improved by an indication of the increasing involvement of the therapist in the management of the patient with a paralysed hand immediately before and after an operation, for example, a tendon transfer and the subsequent rehabilitation. The question of sensory re-education is discussed but there is little mention of motor re-education.

The Paralysed Hand deals with one aspect of hand surgery and makes a most important contribution to our understanding of the treatment of a patient with this condition. There are certain inaccuracies but it brings together the thoughts of established clinicians whose ideas are based on personal experience. Many important principles are outlined and it is certainly to be recommended for any surgeon undertaking the care of patients with a paralysed hand and associated problems.

H. G. BROWN

Rhinoplasty: Emphasizing the External Approach. By Jack R. Anderson and W. Russell Ries. Pp. x + 177 with 270 illustrations. (Stuttgart, New York: Georg Thieme Verlag, 1986). Price DM 98. ISBN 313 691501 1 (TMP)

This third volume, commissioned by the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery represents the lifetime working experience of Dr Anderson, Professor of Otolaryngology in New Orleans. Dr Anderson and his co-author have carried out over 7000 rhinoplasties over the last 34 years. Being such a personal book it is necessarily dogmatic but gives the reader reassurance that the methods described do work, at least in the hands of the authors. In passing, they make helpful comments on techniques they have not found to be useful.

After short, very readable opening chapters on the desirable image of the cosmetic surgeon, medico-legal aspects, psychology and patient selection (including a six page self-administered history questionnaire), the reader is taken through preoperative consultation and planning via surgical technique to postoperative management in concise, clear chapters with helpful line drawings.

The special feature of their technique (the external approach) referred to in the title will be novel to most British readers. In essence, it is a wider exposure of the nasal skeleton by means of a modified "flying bird incision", i.e. marginal incisions in the nostril joined to a transcolumella cut. The authors use this extended exposure in over half of their cases. If you have the courage to use this approach, it must lead to easier and more accurate surgery to the nasal skeleton. With 7000 cases behind him in a litigation-conscious country like America, I am tempted to try this approach when access is limited.

The book has good chapters on local anaesthetic techniques, nasal tip surgery, secondary rhinoplasty and septal surgery. Interestingly, Dr Anderson uses some form of septal surgery in 95% of his rhinoplasties.

What I found particularly helpful was the 15 cases discussed in the last 44 pages of the book. There are pre- and postoperative photographs, detailed comments of the preoperative plan and analysis of the postoperative results.

At DM 98 the volume is reasonably priced. It should be in all plastic surgery libraries and I suspect many senior registrars and consultants would be wise to buy a personal copy.

T. M. MILWARD

Notes on our Reviewers

Hugh G. Brown, TD, QHS, FRCS, DL, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, The Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Frank Burke, FRCS, Consultant Orthopaedic and Hand Surgeon, Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, Derby.

David M. Evans, MB BS, FRCS, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, Berkshire.

Richard W. Griffiths, MS, FRCS, Consultant Reconstructive Plastic Surgeon, Northern General Hospital, Sheffield.

Christopher T. K. Khoo, FRCS, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, Berkshire.

Alan G. Leonard, FRCS, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, The Ulster Hospital, Belfast.

Timothy M. Milward, FRCS, Consultant Plastic and Hand Surgeon, Leicester Royal Infirmary, Leicester.

John H. Palmer, FRCS, Registrar in Plastic Surgery, Bangour General Hospital, West Lothian.

Magdy N. Saad, FRCS, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Wexham Park Hospital, Slough, Berkshire.

Philip J. Sykes, FRCS, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, St Lawrence Hospital, Chepstow, Gwent.

Anthony F. Wallace, TD, FRCS, DHMSA, Consultant Plastic Surgeon, St Andrew's Hospital, Billericay and Hon. Archivist to the British Association of Plastic Surgeons.