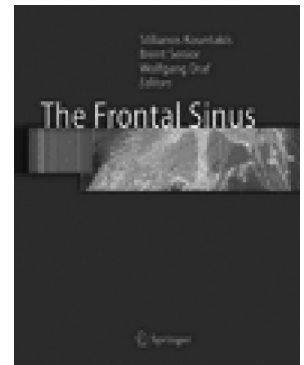


The Frontal Sinus

by S.E. Kountakis, B.A. Senior, W. Draf
ISBN : 3-540-21143-8; 294 pages, 230 illustrations, 130 in colour
Publisher: Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg 2005

Twenty years ago it would have been perhaps remarkable to encounter a book of nearly 300 pages devoted entirely to the topic of the frontal sinus. However, the advent of endoscopic sinus surgery and the recognition that this area represents one of the most challenging to the sinus surgeon has focussed our attention. The book is a multi-author production comprising 31 chapters covering all aspects of the frontal sinus. The authorship is almost exclusively American with the exception of the contributions by Wolfgang Draf and his co-worker, Dr Bockmühl. All aspects from history, anatomy and radiology are covered through the many pathologies that are encountered in this area and their management. Thus the common and more esoteric are covered in some detail and both conventional open and extended endoscopic techniques are comprehensively explored. The book is well illustrated with core messages and important points bulleted in the text. It can certainly be recommended for anyone with an interest in sinus surgery though in being surgically focussed there is relatively little information on medical treatments in this area.

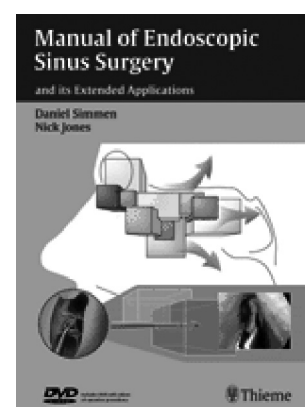


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Manual of endoscopic sinus surgery and its extended applications

By Daniel Simmen and Nick S. Jones
ISBN: 3-13-130971-7 300 pages, 985 illustrations
Publisher : Thieme, Verlaggruppe, 2005

This is the latest of a number of books devoted to endoscopic sinus surgery since Heinz Stammberger's seminal work in 1991. It is certainly most attractively produced, lavishly illustrated in colour and accompanied by a DVD, containing video clips of the surgical procedures and some unique and thought-provoking interviews with patients. In 16 chapters it comprehensively covers all aspects of endoscopic sinus surgery from patient selection through medical treatment and investigation to postoperative management with considerable concentration on surgical detail to minimize problems and optimize results. However, if there is one criticism in an era of evidenced based medicine, it is the apparent lack of information on outcomes though this is probably because the authors have concentrated on producing a practical manual and to this end the extended applications of endoscopic surgery in both the nose and the orbital and skull base interface are elegantly described and illustrated. The book concludes with a short chapter on future developments, again both medical and surgical with an appendix which also includes information for patients. The book is rather sparsely referenced and there is some repetition in the text and illustrations though perhaps this is inevitable in a book of this size and structure. However, these are minor quibbles in what is a superb production which represents an enormous amount of work and which will appeal to surgeons at all levels from both the beginner through to the experienced endoscopic surgeon.



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Pediatric Nasal and Sinus Disorders

by Tania Sih and Peter A. R. Clement (Editors)
Vol. 199 of the Series Lung Biology in Health and Disease
ISBN 0-8247-5448-4; 615 pages; price: \$169.95

Publisher: Taylor & Francis, Boca Raton, FL, USA, 2005

Earlier this year an excellent book on nasal and sinus disorders in children appeared in the series 'Lung Biology in Health and Disease' at Taylor & Francis' publishing house. It is edited by Tania Sih, professor at the Medical School of the University of Sao Paulo and Peter Clement, professor of ORL at the Free University of Brussels. The book comprises no less than 36 chapters written by 56 different authors, all of them from the Western hemisphere. Remarkably, there are no contributions from Scandinavia (except one) and the German speaking countries.

The book is divided in four divisions: Basic Sciences and Epidemiology (10 chapters), Diagnosis (11), Medical Management (10), and Surgery (5). This reviewer feels that most of the chapters of the first three divisions are of the highest quality. Unfortunately, the printing resolution of the illustrations (CT scans, MRI, etc.) is rather poor. The surgical division is very limited. It only deals with choanal atresia, sinus disorders, and turbinate surgery. Chapters on e.g. acute nasal trauma, septal surgery, septal hematoma and abscess, congenital malformations are lacking. The chapter on turbinate surgery is a reprint of a comparative study in adults that was published in the *Annals* in the year 2000.

Despite these shortcomings the book offers a wealth of information and can therefore certainly be advised to libraries as well as individual pediatricians, allergologists, and otorhinolaryngologists.

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