

Book Reviews

Edited by David K. Coats, MD

Strabismus Surgery, Basic and Advanced Strategies

Edited by David A. Plager

Written by Edward G. Buckley, David A. Plager, Michael X. Repka, and M. Edward Wilson.

Contributions by Marshall M. Parks and Gunter K. von Noorden. Oxford, New York, New York; 2004.

194 pages

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Media Type: Textbook

Reviewed by Albert W. Biglan, MD

Synopsis: An excellent monograph providing basic instruction and professional pearls on the management of strabismus.

Target Audience: Comprehensive ophthalmologists, residents, and fellows.

More information is available at www.ajo.com

Review: Dr. Plager has assembled experts in our field to offer a monograph that provides discussion of and strategy for treating some of the more difficult problems in strabismus. The topics include some considerations and “pearls” for management of esotropia and exotropia. The chapters on oblique muscle dysfunction, dissociated deviations, paralytic and restrictive strabismus, and nystagmus offer comments and tips from the experts on how to select the correct procedure and achieve the best result. The chapter on reoperations by the editor is particularly good.

This is an excellent reference book for the resident or fellow. It also serves as a resource for the comprehensive ophthalmologist who performs more than an occasional strabismus procedure. The wisdom and experience offered by the authors and the contributions by Drs. Parks and von Noorden make this book very interesting to read. Pediatric ophthalmologists and strabismologists will value and savor their comments.

The format consists of a concise discussion of the problem with comments interjected by the other authors, either highlighting points or offering some tactfully stated comments on alternative ways to achieve the same goal. Opinions do differ on management of strabismus.

This book has an excellent format. It makes the reader feel like he/she is sitting at a “breakfast with the experts” forum where experts provide insight into some complex issues and some of the subtleties in management. The content is concise and well edited, the style is consistent, and there is little repetition.

This monograph is less than 200 pages and it is well indexed. The surgeon, the evening before operating a difficult problem, would be well served by scanning or reading the appropriate chapter in this monograph to be reassured that the procedure being performed on the patient the next day is well thought out and contingent plans reviewed.