
Preface

This is an unusual one of a kind work. Something old. Something new which is based in part on something old.

It deals primarily with and brings together a wide ranging group of essays many of which are classics of more than half a century of research done by the senior author. Much of this historical review remains significant and germane today. Some material antedates the emergence of the specialties of craniofacial biology, craniofacial surgery and bone biology. Many of the reports preceded the period of molecular biology. This summary represents a fundamental pioneering contribution to a representative portion of the specialties. A diverse group of experiments was done at different times in an irregular sequence over the many years. However, they fit into a logical pattern which could be likened in a way to the periodic table of chemistry (Mendeleev). Because the face offered so many different structures, muscles and bones, it was a rich source of study.

Added to the past the junior author has contributed significantly to the present by including recent works with the presentation of issues dealing with stem cell, tissue regeneration and tissue engineering research. In addition, appropriately selected clinical work is included, a result of the further development and maturity of the specialties. And what does the future hold? No doubt unpredictable gigantic advances.

A logical sequence has been followed with an introduction, Part I. The Lower Face; Part II. The Midface; Part III. The Upper Face; Part IV. Tooth Development and Associated Structures; Part V. Cranial Sutures and Cranial Base; Part VI. Several reports (Chaps. 32–37) dealing with a

synthesis and integrative interpretation of previous research as well as other selected subjects; Part VII. Public Health Aspects; APPENDIX dealing with becoming a Plastic Surgeon.

Full recognition and thanks are due to the important contributions of colleagues, students with their devoted expert secretarial skills (Catherine O'Hara, Misha Heller, Kristy Wasson, Rebekah Ashley, and Hurig Katchikian, untiring and totally dedicated) staff, and devoted families throughout the years. Especial recognition should be given to Michelle Van Vliet for her expert photography skills and cheerful countenance. Without their unflinching support this work would not have been possible.

We made every effort to minimize errors and inaccuracies. If any did occur, we apologize. And lastly, a great big thank you to both the publishers and editors. We owe a great debt of gratitude in particular and significant recognition to Sook-Cheng Lim, Scientific Editor of World Scientific Publishing and her staff for their patience, dedication, devotion, and meticulous attention to detail and guidance throughout the entire process of this work.

This volume is dedicated to the future leaders in the specialties of craniofacial biology and craniofacial surgery.

Thank you all.

Bernard G. Sarnat, M.D., D.D.S.
James P. Bradley, M.D.