

SYNDROMOLOGY AND CRANIOFACIAL ANOMALIES, M. Michael Cohen, Jr., Vol. 1 No. 3 Current Advances in Oral Biology, Edited by Harold C. Slavkin and D. Walter Cohen, University of Southern California, School of Dentistry/University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine

This is an interesting packet of materials authored by a well-respected syndromologist. It consists of a 99 page monograph, tape recording, and 49 color slides. Although the unit was designed for dentists and oral biologists, there is considerable material here which would be of interest to teratologists.

The text discusses syndromology from a number of perspectives, and the author is to be applauded for his attempts to introduce order into an otherwise chaotic field. His descriptions and discussion of the biological types of syndromes are particularly interesting. Although the text is not comprehensive in terms of the syndromes discussed, the discussion is liberally interlaced with figures and illustrations that help provide a broad coverage of the many birth defect syndromes encountered in the clinical setting. The text should be a valuable teaching tool for the student in clinical teratology, and it will also provide interesting reading for the experienced practitioner in the field. Unfortunately, the editing is terrible and there are

horrendous numbers of typographical and grammatical lapses that should have been corrected by careful proofreading and editing. While these errors are irritating, they in no way detract from the quality of the presentation.

The slides and tapes go together and provide a 43-minute discussion of malformations, deformations, the nature of syndrome delineation, various types of syndromes, the psychosocial burden of having craniofacial anomalies, and some perspectives on the dysmorphic face. The slides are of good quality and many are reproduced in the text. The tape is a somewhat canned presentation, but is deemed good for a basic beginning.

Although this unit is not available on the open market, the editors have indicated that if the demand is sufficient they would consider offering the package at \$50 per unit. This price is unquestionably steep, and one could wish that the editors would make the monograph alone available for a lesser amount. However, all is not necessarily lost, since it is understood that the author will be developing this material and approach in textbook form -- that development is eagerly awaited.

MASON BARR, JR.
Department of Pediatrics
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109