

Book Review

The History of Otosclerosis Treatment; R.A. Tange.
Amsterdam, The Netherlands: Kugler Publications, 2014.

The History of Otosclerosis Treatment is an interesting review of one of the most important topics in otology.

The way from fenestration to laser stapedotomy has been long and exciting with a few triumphs and many failures, which is common in the history of medicine.

The book not only lists the facts about otosclerosis but develops a sensible itinerary through authors and techniques, and the integration of the technical advances in ear surgery.

This book is divided into two main chapters and complemented with two other secondary but interesting topics. Main chapters are “Non-surgical treatment of otosclerosis” and “Surgical treatment of otosclerosis.” In both of them, the author walks from the last years of the nineteenth century to the twenty-first century including all steps in the development of otosclerosis knowledge. The text is illustrated with nice pictures and photographs which make easy and enjoyable reading.

Two small chapters about “Otosclerosis and pregnancy” and “Treatment of cochlear otosclerosis” complement the text considering two important aspects of otosclerosis which were not addressed in the main chapters. The historical anecdotes about otosclerosis and pregnancy are amazing, and, usually, they are not well known for most otologists.

This book is highly recommended for physicians involved in the management of otosclerosis. For young otologists, the text allows an understanding of the progression of surgical techniques, and for otolaryngology teachers this is a useful text because remembering the history explains the present and trains for the future.

Angel Batuecas Caletrio, M.D., Ph.D.

Otoneurology Unit, ENT Department

University Hospital of Salamanca

Salamanca, Spain

abatuc@yahoo.es

The author discloses no conflict of interest.