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Management of cleft lip and palate in the developing world (2008)

Editors: Michael Mars, Debbie Sell and Alex Habel
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This book deals with the multidisciplinary management of cleft lip and palate (CLP) in developing countries. It is divided into five main parts: surgery and anaesthesia, approaches to organization, facial growth research, medical management–disability–psychological and social aspects, and speech and audiology. The contributors of the various chapters have extensive experience in organizing or providing cleft care in the developing world.

The authors give information on different models of organizational approach and structure, present the positive and negative aspects of international cleft organizations, describe the direct and indirect contributions to the host countries and discuss social and ethical questions. Moreover, they provide practical guidance on project development, trip preparation, team selection, use of local facilities, pre- and post-operative care, delivery of audiological services and speech therapy, management of psychological and social difficulties, development of

parent–patient support groups, cultural considerations and many other aspects of cleft management in the developing world. Future editions of this book could make the information provided more attractive with more and better quality illustrations.

Although, different approaches to the subject are often found, the main current goal, namely to train and support local medical professionals and organizations in the developing countries and to create self-sustaining teams, is made clear throughout the book.

The book provides valuable information to organizations and clinicians in the developed world as well as to medical professionals and administrators in developing countries. Moreover, it can be used in training programmes for the medical, dental and nursing disciplines that are involved in CLP treatment.

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