

and
in

LOCAL ANESTHESIA

PAIN CONTROL

DENTAL PRACTICE

LEONARD M. MONHEIM

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by

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To

MARION, CHARLES, AND LISA

Foreword

It is my firm belief that this work will open a new era in dental anesthesiology. For the first time the over-all control of pain is advocated in dental practice. The author is sincere in his belief that pain and dentistry should not be synonymous.

This is the first time to my knowledge that a book has been written by a specialist in dental anesthesia; the author is a man who has devoted his entire professional career to the study, practice, and teaching of the different aspects of this speciality. His aim is a worthy one in trying to place dental anesthesia on a higher level.

This book can be used as a text for undergraduate students of dentistry, as it advocates the knowledge of the fundamentals of anatomy and pharmacology as the basis for safe pain control. The practicing dentist as well can benefit by the many suggestions drawn from the author's vast experience in clinical anesthesia. Discussions are specific and to the point, covering practically every situation arising from the use of pain control in daily practice.

NIELS BJORN JORGENSEN, D.D.S.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Preface

Pain control is an extremely important but oftentimes neglected part of the practice of dentistry. It is so important that many more patients absent themselves from the dental offices because of fear of pain than for all other reasons combined.

This volume has been written with the hope that dentists and dental students may have a guide for the control of pain in dentistry. It is my intent to point out and explain that the control of pain in the practice of dentistry is not necessarily confined to the actual office hours. The anxiety and apprehensions of the preoperative period, as well as the discomforts experienced during the immediate postoperative period, should receive due consideration. This volume, therefore, stresses to the dentist the importance of pain control in all phases of dental practice.

It is my sincere opinion that there is no procedure in dentistry which cannot be performed painlessly if the dentist has the will to do so. To practice pain control successfully, the practitioner should have a thorough understanding of the nature of pain and how it comes about. His knowledge of the neuroanatomy involved should be adequate, for upon this depends the technique of injections. The pharmacology of the local anesthetics, analgesics, and associated drugs should be mastered by the dentist, as he, above all others, should be an authority on regional analgesia. Dentistry as a true health service will be more eagerly accepted by the public, and the dentist will gain in stature and respect when over-all pain control is universally practiced by the dental profession.

The writing of this volume would have been much more difficult, if not impossible, without the aid of many individuals. The research help rendered by Dr. Jack Arch, Dr. J. Clayton Cummings, Dr. David Gutman, Dr. Jerome Harris, Dr. Michael Klymko, Dr. Robert Locke, Dr. Robert Pelton, Dr. Stanley Pollock, Dr. Ray Primas, Dr. Murray Schwartz, Dr. George Shontz, Dr. Fred Sollar, and

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The chapters contributed by Dr. T. W. Brand, General Neal A. Harper, and Miss M. Catherine Marburger are indeed an asset to the book. I am grateful to Dr. Niels Jorgensen for his contribution, "The Technique of Infraorbital Block," and for much other advice which he so willingly gave; also, to Dr. George J. Thomas, Dr. Francis F. Foldes, and Dr. Sidney S. Spatz, for their valuable time which they gave whenever it was asked.

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It is very possible that the groundwork for this volume was inaugurated by one of my former teachers, Dr. W. Harry Archer, and my brother, Dr. A. I. Monheim, by their encouragement in my early years in Anesthesia.

To all those who helped in any way during the preparation of this volume, I am deeply grateful.

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