BOOK REVIEW

**Title:** THE CRUCIAL LIGAMENTS

**Author:** J. Feagin Jr.

**Publisher:** Churchill Livingstone, Edinburgh

Price: £95.00  571 pages  Index  Hard cover  ISBN 0 443 08549 8

"The Crucial Ligaments" is one of the latest of the many books dealing with the common, important and difficult problems of injuries of the cruciate ligaments. It is pertinent that John Feagin should use the word *crucial* in his title, thus both reiterating the style of Hey-Groves and emphasising the importance of these structures. This is an excellent book with contributions by most of the world's recognised experts. The illustrations are clear and relevant. The message of the importance of early recognition of the detail of various patterns of injury is emphatic and the global concept of treatment and counselling at all stages in the natural history of injury is well covered.

For me, and I expect for many others, the highlight of the book was the presentation of 16 case studies which were well selected to test the various approaches and the treatment possibilities of most of the injury patterns that might occur. There are also very adequate separate sections on surgical treatment, rehabilitation and an overview of prosthetic ligaments. The price is high for individual purchase but the book should be a requirement of the orthopaedic library.

Michael L. Harding

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BOOK REVIEW

**Title:** PHYSICAL THERAPY OF THE KNEE: CLINICS IN PHYSICAL THERAPY No. 19

**Editor:** Robert E. Manguine

**Publisher:** Churchill Livingstone, New York  1988

Price: £24.00  250 pages  Index  Hard cover  ISBN 0 443 08411 4

It is part of the expressed hope of the Editor in his Foreword that "the sequence of the chapters reflects the order in which the rehabilitation science of this joint has been developed. It is hoped that readers will follow this sequence to heighten their appreciation of the knee". I think the Editor and the associated authors have done a very good and interesting job. The book proves to be easy to read and, typical of so many books produced in America, it is because of its style and layout which follows that of the other 18 in this series.

The volume includes 10 chapters and index of its 250 pages. It starts with the setting of anatomical, biomechanical and pathomechanical principles using, in the main, the methodology of Karppandi. This should make it recognisable to the more recently qualified physiotherapists placing them on familiar ground and helping them in revision. The succeeding chapters 3-10 cover associated pathologies(1), evaluation process (assessment to British readers), foot pronation and knee pain, conservative versus post-surgical patellar rehabilitation, surgical overview of the patello-femoral joint, surgical overview and rehabilitation process for ligamentous repair, innovative approaches to surgery and rehabilitation, and isokinetic approach to the knee.

For the older amongst us there is nothing much that is new but there is the advantage of the material being in one place. I particularly liked the chapters on pathomechanics, evaluation (which reminded me of enjoyable lecture demonstrations by James Riddel, MCSP) and conservative versus post-surgical patellar rehabilitation. The text is ably supported by 7 X-rays (I do not think I will ever get used to radiologic or for that matter pathologic), 1 flow chart, 60 or so photographs, 58 diagrams and drawings, 18 bar charts and graphs together with 17 tables and checklists. The references are comprehensive and reads like a Who's Who of American orthopaedics and physical therapy. It was good to see Trickey, Cyriax, Smilie and Wykes get a mention. There is a spelling mistake in the anatomical and mechanical chapter Fig. 1-6, where 'cruciate' is spelt 'cauciate' twice. I thought it was the American for the ligaments. Throughout the emphasis is on "doing", that is rehabilitation following knee injury and surgery. The book should prove invaluable to physiotherapists and physiotherapy students. I would suggest that it will prove of interest to budding sports physicians and surgeons.

To go back to the Editors hope I'll answer "It does, I have, It will". A must for the Library. A physiotherapy companion to Smilie's Injuries of the Knee Joint and Diseases of the Knee Joint.

J. A. Fowler