

Contents

1 Experience Changes the Brain	1
1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Oral Experience Strengthens Neuron Synapses.....	2
1.3 How Experience Strengthens Synapses.....	3
1.4 Developmental Agents of the Brain.....	4
1.5 Families of Developmental Agents of the Brain	5
1.6 Trophic Functions of Neurons – Plasticity	7
1.7 Oral-Cavity – Reservoir of Growth Factors.....	7
1.8 The Ever-Growing Brain	9
2 Functional and Dysfunctional Aspects of the Cerebral Cortex	11
2.1 Introduction.....	11
2.2 The Sensorimotor Cortex.....	11
2.3 Oral Sensorimotor Integration	12
2.4 Sensory Integration Dysfunction	15
2.4.1 Dysfunction in the Proprioceptive System	16
2.4.2 Dysfunction in the Tactile System.....	16
2.4.3 Dysfunction in the Vestibular System	16
2.4.4 Possible Sensory Signs and Symptoms	16
2.5 Oral Experience Changes the Brain.....	17
2.6 Role of Reticular Formation in Oral Sensorimotor Functions.....	21
2.6.1 Descending Reticular Control.....	21
2.6.2 Ascending Reticular Activating System.....	21
2.6.3 Corticoreticular Control.....	23
2.6.4 Centrifugal Afferent Control and Central Inhibitory Mechanisms	23
3 Sensory Deprivation of the Brain	25
3.1 Introduction.....	25
3.2 Sensory Deprivation and Thumb-Sucking.....	26
3.3 Sensory Deprivation and Malocclusions of the Teeth	28
3.4 Sensory Deprivation and Occlusal Interferences.....	31

3.5	Sensory Deprivation and Emotions in the Deciduous and Mixed Dentition	34
3.6	Looking into Love and Depression: The Deep Limbic System.....	36
3.7	Sensory Adaptation.....	36
4	Looking into the “Black Box”	39
4.1	Introduction.....	39
4.2	Decoding the Brain Changes	39
4.3	Looking into Conscious Brain – the Prefrontal Cortex	45
4.4	Programming the Oral Senses for Learning.....	46
4.5	Oral Learning and Memory of Experiences.....	47
4.6	Looking into Memory – the Temporal Lobes	51
4.7	Conscious Cognitive Aspects of Oral Motor Behavior	51
4.8	Perception Regulates Oral Motor Behavior.....	54
4.9	Excitable Media: An Alternative Approach to Brain Structure and Cognition.....	59
5	Language and Speech	63
5.1	Introduction.....	63
5.2	Language and Speech Development.....	63
6	Mastication in Man.....	69
6.1	The Central Pattern Generator	69
6.2	The Trigeminal Stretch Reflex.....	70
6.3	Isometric Contraction of Jaw-Closing Muscles.....	71
6.4	The Unloaded Reflex	73
6.5	Voluntary Control of Masticatory Muscles.....	73
6.6	The Closed-Loop Theory of Motor Control	74
6.7	The Open-Loop Theory of Motor Control.....	75
6.8	Orthodontic Implication of Motor Control Theories	76
6.9	Multicontrol Levels of Coordinated Chewing Movements	76
6.10	Central Sites Eliciting Mastication	77
6.11	Tonic Stretch Reflex and Postural Position	77
6.12	Control of Tonic Stretch Reflex.....	78
6.13	Cerebral Cortex Control of Voluntary Movements.....	79
6.14	Cerebellar Control of Voluntary Movements.....	80
6.15	Conscious Sensation of the Muscle Spindle.....	81
6.16	The Subconscious Nature of Complex Movements	82
6.17	Masticatory Plasticity	83
7	Occlusion and Mastication	85
7.1	Introduction.....	85
7.2	The Chewing Cycle	86
7.3	Directional Sensitivity of the Teeth Guides Normal Occlusion.....	87
7.4	Functional Malocclusion.....	87

7.5	Functional Malocclusion Affects the Central Pattern Generator	88
7.6	Factors Affecting the Maturation of the Central Pattern Generator	89
7.7	Form and Function	89
8	Applied Neurophysiological Concepts in Orthodontics.....	93
8.1	Introduction.....	93
8.2	Oral Perceptual–Motor Dysfunction in Children.....	93
8.3	The Scheme of the Mouth.....	95
8.4	Oral Sensory and Motor Somatotopic Coincidence	97
8.5	Agnosia of Teeth	97
8.6	Oral Apraxia	98
8.7	Enhancing Oral Perception: Pacini Receptors	100
8.8	Enhancing Oral Perception: Muscle Spindles and Tactile Receptors.....	100
8.9	Enhancing Oral Perception: Centrifugal Influences	101
8.10	Affecting Oral Perception and Learning.....	101
8.11	Affecting Oral Perception: Emotional Influences.....	102
8.12	Proprioception of Muscles of Facial Expression	103
8.13	Neurophysiological Similarities of Tactile Oral–facial and Skin Receptors	104
8.14	Periodontal Tactile Receptors	106
8.15	Directional Sensitivity of Periodontal Receptors.....	108
8.16	Periodontal Receptors Regulate Tongue Posture. A Hypothesis	109
8.17	Heightened Perception of Tongue Position.....	109
8.18	Mechanosensation in Bone	110
8.19	Equilibrium Theory of Tooth Position Reexamined.....	111
8.20	Orthodontic Forces Regulate Alveolar Bone Remodeling Through Mechanosensation in Bone	112
8.21	Forward Posturing of Tongue Tuned to Respiratory Rhythm: A Hypothesis.....	113
8.22	Tongue Thrust Activity	114
8.23	Motor Units in the Trigeminal System	116
8.24	Classification of Motor Units	117
8.25	Activation of Motor Units in Muscle-Fiber Types	117
8.26	Plasticity of Muscles.....	118
8.27	Fiber Type in Masticatory Muscles.....	118
8.28	Hypertrophy of Masticatory Muscles	119
8.29	Atrophy of Masticatory Muscles	120
8.30	The Hyperactive Child in Orthodontic Practice.....	121
8.31	Functional Jaw Orthopedic Appliances	122
9	Clinical Brain Function	125
9.1	Introduction.....	125
9.2	Optimizing the Conscious Mind: The Prefrontal Cortex.....	126
9.3	Shifting Attention: The Cingulate Gyrus.....	126
9.4	Optimizing Limbic System Function.....	127

9.5	Optimizing Memory: The Temporal Lobes	128
9.6	Looking into Anxiety and Fine Motor Coordination: The Basal Ganglia.....	129
9.7	Optimizing Neurotransmitter Deficiency: Nutritional Intervention	129
10	Orthodontic Avenues to Neuroplasticity	131
10.1	Introduction.....	131
10.2	Principal Components of Brain Function: The Neuron	132
10.3	Bioenergetics.....	132
10.4	Functional Brain Imaging in Orthodontics	133
10.5	The Perceptual–Motor System of the Mouth.....	134
10.6	Changes in Occlusion of the Teeth Change the Brain	135
10.7	Functional MRI Study of Malocclusions of the Teeth.....	135
11	Summary	137
	References	139
	Index	149