Evaluation, Treatment and Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders, Volume 1, Spine H. Duane Saunders and Robin Saunders

3rd ed. Bloomington, MN: Saunders, 1993.

Physical therapists need a text such as this to keep on their desks as a reference. The authors have organized the text in a predictable manner with anatomy, biomechanics, and evaluation in the first half of the book and specific treatment modalities in the second. What is remarkable and will make this a useful text is the authors' recognition of and response to the need that physical therapists often have to treat spine patients based on the signs and symptoms they present, not on a definitive diagnosis. The authors have discussed 10 different patient problems in the text, and offered treatment options for each.

The other item that sets this book apart from others is the very well-written and well-illustrated chapter on pelvic girdle dysfunction. The authors provide the reader with a logical and concise table of evaluation results and corresponding dysfunctions as well as several treatment options for each.

The remainder of this text is a good supplementary reference. The chapters on exercise, traction, and industrial injury prevention will be helpful reviews for the practicing therapist.

Karen L. Drilling, PT