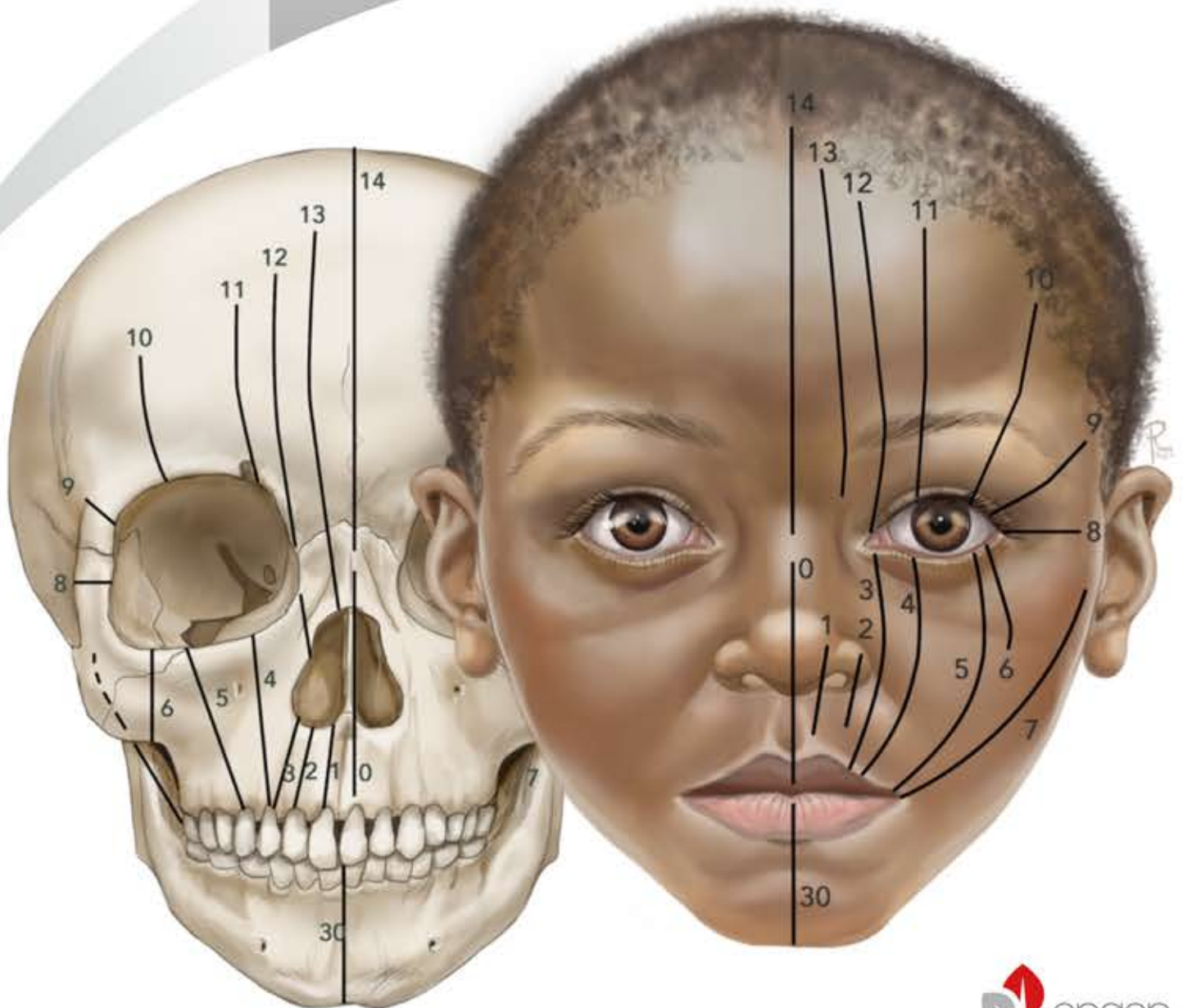


Cleft Lip and palate

Craniofacial clefts



- *Edited by:* Alberto Musolas
- *Collaborators:* Asrat Mengiste, Quinodoz, Lionel Dumont, Edward Wayi
- *Illustrations by:* Roser Torres, Alberto Musolas

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This book is dedicated to three master surgeons:

Dr. Fernando Ortiz-Monasteriot,

Dr. Ignacio Trigos,

Dr. Manuel García Velasco

Who dedicate their lives to the assistance of patients who suffer from cleft lip and palate defects, and craniofacial clefts.

As well training surgeons so that they may continue the task of assisting, teaching and solidarity.

To hold him who has taught me this art as equal to my parents and to live my life in partnership with him,...

...to give a share of precepts and oral instruction and all the other learning to my sons and to the sons of him who has instructed me and to pupils who have signed the covenant and have taken an oath according to the medical law, but no one else.

Hippocratic oath (original fragment)

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PROLOGUE

*"The one exclusive sign of thorough knowledge
is the power of teaching"*

Aristotle

Those who teach are master builders, builders of bridges, and this book is a prime example of their numerous skills.

It is a bridge between practice and knowledge: the book expresses the quintessence of many years of surgical practice, which has been carefully analyzed, synthesized, and distilled into a sum of explicit knowledge that can be shared, that can be used to teach and inspire more junior surgeons. It is a bridge between clinical experience and science where the precision of surgery translates into scientific meticulousness.

It is also a bridge between the have and the have nots. Designed with the means and the exigence of the highest standards of the rich world, this book is built on the work performed in the challenging settings of developing countries, in the dilapidated operating rooms of rudimentary hospitals. It is about helping those who care

"A smile is the beginning of peace"

Mother Teresa

about the poorest. It provides methods, advice and tools to be rigorous and efficient, despite the lack of resources.

It is even in some way, a bridge over distances. Indeed, those who are always looking at new devices and technologies that could improve their work. The technology that connected me to Dr Musolas is telemedicine, used to improve, despite the distance and the remoteness, the diagnosis, management and follow-up of complex patients requiring reconstructive surgery in humanitarian settings. More innovatively, telemedicine is also used to facilitate speech evaluation of patients with clefts, or to enable distance capacity building of care professionals.

In doing so, the authors are restoring smiles, with patience and empathy.

Prof. Antoine Geissbuhler, MD

Geneva University Hospitals, Switzerland

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