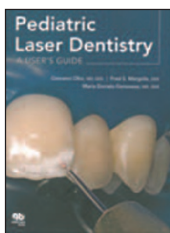


Book reviews

Books, videos, CD-ROMs, DVDs and any other relevant items submitted for a review in the BDJ should be addressed to:

Kate Maynard,
Assistant Editor,
British Dental Journal,
Nature Publishing Group,
4-6 Crinan Street,
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PEDIATRIC LASER DENTISTRY: A USER'S GUIDE



G. Olivi, F. Margolis,
M. D. Genovese

UK: Quintessence

price £112.00; pp 224

ISBN 9780867154948

This book is aimed at those readers who intend to purchase a laser unit, or those clinicians who already have laser technology in their practice and wish to develop its use.

Fifteen chapters are divided into five parts: Basic Science, Operative Paediatric Dentistry, Hard Tissue Laser Applications, Soft Tissue Laser Applications, and Laser Assisted Applications.

The opening chapter discusses the genesis of laser technology. While the initial plunge into the vocabulary of the laser enthusiast might frighten the novice, it is worth taking time through the early chapters. There is a wealth of information on the variety of laser units available.

Introducing the clinical use of lasers with paediatric patients, it continues with a discussion of analgesia and isolation. A section on preventative dentistry details, amongst other applications, the possibility of lasers reducing caries development by altering the structure of the outer enamel layer.

A chapter on restorative dentistry offers an impressive series of tables with protocols for laser unit settings and balances the pros and cons of laser *versus* conventional drill. The book speeds on through the use of lasers in endodontics, mentioning the full range of treatments common in the paediatric patient.

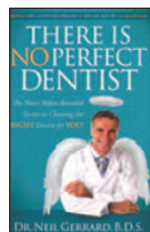
Soft tissue surgery is reviewed with a very practical description of the

properties of the target tissues complemented by colour photographs illustrating the surgical procedures. This is developed further in a chapter on laser assisted treatments and low level laser therapy. These are areas that require further research.

Often the book reads like the authors' opinion. With sparse referencing in some places, it would benefit from a firmer evidence base. I feel it is very much the kind of book you would have as a reference, balancing on your knee as you practise on extracted teeth. In this regard the authors have succeeded. However, there is more work to do if this is to become a key text for users of laser equipment.

L. Murphy

THERE IS NO PERFECT DENTIST: THE NEVER BEFORE REVEALED SECRETS TO CHOOSING THE RIGHT DENTIST FOR YOU!



N. Gerrard

UK: Glazer-Kennedy Publishing

price \$14.95; pp 154

ISBN 9780982859001

This book sets out with the aim of helping members of the public choose a dentist which suits them. The book is well thought out and covers an array of common issues encountered in an average dental practice including everything from what should be checked in the initial consultation to the use of sedation and general anaesthetic in dentistry. The glossary of terms at the rear of the book provides the reader with clear and concise definitions of the more commonly used dental jargon and those which are used in the main text of the book. The book is well laid out,

easy to read and flows well from one topic to another. However, I feel that the main aim of the book – choosing the right dentist for you – is forced to take a back seat to everything else the reader has to sift through. The user-friendly structure and the detailed contents page certainly makes this easier but the book will do little to encourage even those people who have failed to attend for a basic examination for many years. A single chapter on actually deciding on which dentist is right for you is disappointing considering the title of the book and what it portrays itself to be. It does, however, provide the reader with an excellent overview of how dentistry actually works and an insight into what is actually involved in cosmetic and aesthetic dentistry which are some of the more burning issues which patients are often inquisitive about. Most people will be subjective when it comes to deciding who they trust with the care of their oral health and although the key questions outlined by the book provide a good mould for any dentist to adhere to, readers are unlikely to feel assured until they find a dentist who fits into their own conception of the 'right' dentist.

Z. Ali

ENDO-PERIODONTAL LESIONS



E. Foce

UK: Quintessence

price £98.00; pp 158

ISBN 9781580972105

This book by Edoardo Foce would be a welcome addition to any dentist's library. Foce tackles the confusing topic of endo-perio lesions with