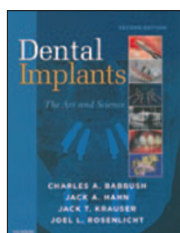


Book reviews

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

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DENTAL IMPLANTS: THE ART AND SCIENCE, 2ND EDITION



C. A. Babbush, J. A. Hahn,
J. T. Krauser, J. L. Rosenlicht
UK: Elsevier
price £148.00; pp 544
ISBN 9781416053415

This 30 chapter book describes a variety of topics relating to dental implantology. Chapters range from the business aspects of implantology to anatomy to reconstruction following ablative surgery. The majority of the book's content is relevant to routine dental implant reconstruction, making this book useful to well informed dentists or for those already practising and wishing to expand their knowledge. Significant improvements have been made since its first edition making this a useful reference in its field.

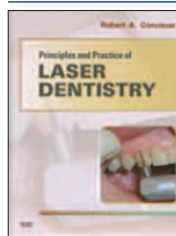
The first six chapters are of little relevance to the British audience. Epidemiology, business planning, team training and risk management are all discussed with a strong American weight. Little is to be gained from the chapter concerning the treatment of 'medically complex' patients, however, the discussion about the treatment of patients at risk of osteonecrosis is of interest. Following the initially slow start to the book, the remaining chapters improve in quality and relevance. The description of surgical anatomical considerations is particularly useful, with excellent supporting pictures. The radiology chapters are of high quality, discussing the pros and cons of 2D and 3D imaging. The physiology of bone formation, regeneration, grafts and soft tissue healing are described particularly well, with ample detail.

Antral surgery, inferior dental nerve lateralisation and mental nerve distalisation are shown with good clinical pictures. However, as is the case with all the surgical techniques described in this book, there is insufficient information given, with regard to the method, to repeat the techniques in practice. Angled implants, teeth in a day, implants in children and the 'all on four' concept are examined. The chapter on complications is methodical and depicted well. The discussion of hygiene and soft tissue management post implantation is also a useful addition.

The reader of this book may feel the art is less well portrayed than the science, frustrated that the surgical techniques are not explained in more detail. The chapters are concise, yet often describe some interesting topics in detail. Thirty chapters, 20 of them new to this edition, will offer the purchaser of this book plenty of enjoyable reading.

A. Jenkinson

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF LASER DENTISTRY



R. A. Convissar
UK: Elsevier
price £103.00; pp 352
ISBN 9780323062060

Goldman, a pioneer in laser surgery, remarked in his 1967 publication that 'there has been too little interest in the clinical and applied phases of laser dentistry by dentists'. This book certainly addresses these issues with an evidence-based approach to information collated from a host of international contributors.

For the historians amongst us the first chapter deals with the development of the

quantum theory and origins of lasers. For the physicists amongst us the second chapter addresses the fundamentals of laser delivery, safety and effect on tissues. In the following 13 chapters Dr Convissar examines the use of lasers in nonsurgical, surgical and regenerative periodontics, oral pathology, implantology, fixed and removable prosthetics, cosmetic procedures, endodontics, restorative and paediatric dentistry, orthodontics and oral and maxillofacial surgery.

Each chapter is carefully constructed with a brief overview into current and future laser application within that particular dental discipline. Peer-reviewed procedures are discussed with a focus on comparative data assessing the success of different types of laser. Clinical cases serve to summarise the preceding information and are supplemented by useful step by step illustrations and full colour pre, intra and post-operative photographs to aid comprehension. In addition the clinical tip and caution boxes draw attention to pertinent information and steer the clinician around the hazards of laser use in everyday dental practice. The summary at the end of each chapter is ideal for a review of contents.

Whilst commenting on the future for laser technology, the emphasis of this book is very much based within the current clinical environment. Dr Convissar aims to address the practicalities of laser with regard to economics, clinical time and outcomes. The final chapter even demonstrates how to introduce lasers into your practice.

This book highlights the possibilities for hard and soft tissue lasers and demonstrates that with proper case selection, the outcomes can be at least comparable or superior to traditional approaches