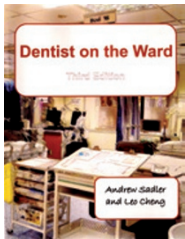


Book reviews

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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DENTIST ON THE WARD, 3RD EDITION



A. Sadler, L. Cheng
Sorejaw
price £30.00; pp 158
ISBN 9780956937728

This book is based on the famous 'Dentist on the ward' course. Designed and set up by Andrew Sadler in an attempt to better prepare maxillofacial senior house officers (now DF2s) before starting their first job.

However, don't stop reading now if you're a DF1 or an undergraduate. The book's opening chapters provide advice and guidance for those interested in a career in maxillofacial surgery. Even if this is not something you are considering, those wishing to pursue a career in a hospital setting should take note too. The book has been developed from the lecture handouts and is presented in a clear, modern format. In fact I was so captivated that I read this book over a weekend! It covers all key areas and procedures that DF2 dentists are expected to know and do. This ranges from when to request blood tests, to venepuncture itself. There are step-by-step colour photographs that allow you to see how to do many hospital-based procedures. These range from the correct hand washing technique to how to scrub and gown in theatre.

I also particularly liked the section on how to write clinical notes regarding the more medical side of a DF2 job. In between all this excellent practical advice, there are also sections of interest. One of these includes the photographs of commonly used maxillofacial

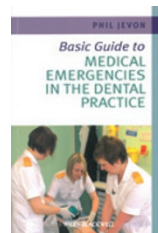
instruments. Beside them it explains when the instrument would be used, but it also gives you their history. So if, like me, you have wondered who Warwick James was then wonder no more.

The book gives a flavour of the actual course, and if you want the full hands on experience it is well worthwhile enrolling online. It is held annually and is comprised of lectures in combination with practical sessions. The practical sessions cover medical examinations, closing lacerations in layers, prescribing on hospital drug charts to name a few activities. The lectures are excellent and help with understanding fluid prescribing and hospital cross infection. The cost of the course also includes the book.

Maybe this book is meant to ease the minds of those waiting to start their DF2 jobs. If this is its aim then it certainly worked for me, and it has proved a good reference book well into the start of my new job. I would strongly recommend it for any dentist considering working in a hospital for the first time.

C. Porter

BASIC GUIDE TO MEDICAL EMERGENCIES IN THE DENTAL PRACTICE



P. Jevon
Wiley-Blackwell
price £26.95; pp 216
ISBN 9781405197847

The importance of being able to manage medical emergencies by the dental team has been a well-accepted principle for some time. The emphasis on this is especially notable by the General

Dental Council's inclusion of medical emergencies within core CPD requirements.

The book starts by revising the principles of how to recognise the sick patient and on through to more complex issues such as resuscitation. Medical emergencies are helpfully categorised into chapters relating to the body system they affect. I found that each chapter supplied a good depth of information on the physiological causes of the emergency prior to providing a detailed explanation of how to manage such a situation.

The book is easy to read as much of the information is explained clearly using tables, flow charts and bullet points that prevent the reader becoming overwhelmed with information.

Throughout, the author consistently provides clear references to up to date literature to back up their advice. This also shows the reader easily where they can access more information if desired.

Clear, detailed photographs are used extensively to show how to use equipment and perform manual tasks. More complex procedures are demonstrated with step-by-step images. Whilst no replacement for hands-on sessions, they serve to remind the reader of prior learning.

A chapter that I found of particular interest was one about professional and legal issues. It focuses on the dental practitioner's accountability with regard to the patient, society in general, the employer and the General Dental Council. This provides a lot of food for thought with regard to patient consent and best practice.

I enjoyed reading the book and found it to be detailed and clear in its

explanation of the causes and management of medical emergencies. I would recommend this book to dental professionals who want to use current best practices and principles in the management of medical emergencies in the dental practice. It would also be a helpful study aid to those taking undergraduate or royal college examinations. I know that I would have found it to be very helpful indeed.

M. Stewart

IMPLANT DENTISTRY AT A GLANCE



J. Malet, F. Mora,
P. Bouchard
Wiley-Blackwell
price £24.99; pp 144
ISBN 9781444337440

This book is the first edition of the 'at a glance' series to cover the topic of implant dentistry. It follows the easy-to-read format that is synonymous with the 'at a glance' textbooks, refreshingly short and concise. The book is aimed at undergraduate dentists and general dental practitioners, providing a nice overview of implant dentistry without delving into complex detail that would ultimately lead to confusion for those lacking implant experience.

The book contains 50 chapters, which are divided into six main sections including the basic principles of implant dentistry, patient evaluation/selection, treatment planning, surgical techniques, bone augmentation, and complications/postoperative care. Each chapter is presented as a two-page spread, with illustrations and clinical photographs on the left and text on the right, which is easy on the eye.

This textbook is very systematic in its approach to its discussion on implant dentistry. It begins by explaining the process of osseointegration, indicating why implants are well received by their host environment and the science behind it.

It moves on to discuss the anatomy of the upper and lower jaws, texture of the bone and their anatomical structures. It describes the different types of implants available in terms of height, width, shape and surface texture.

There is a detailed section on patient selection and the importance of identifying patients with risk factors. Treatment planning follows where it discusses which implants are most suitable in various clinical situations and the rationale behind their selection. It discusses the restorative options for implants; however, this section felt rushed and lacked in-depth detail.

It then flows into the various surgical techniques. Bone augmentation procedures appropriately ensue, followed by the management of postoperative complications.

'Implant dentistry' beautifully delivers the section on bone augmentation. The concepts of bone augmentation can be very difficult to grasp for those who have not been privileged enough to see the procedures carried out clinically. The illustrations and their captions clearly describe the procedures involved in block bone grafting, split osteotomies, sinus lift elevations and alveolar distraction, in a stepwise easily comprehensible fashion.

In summary, this fantastic book would be a great addition to an undergraduate or general dental practitioner's library, providing them with essential basic knowledge of dental implants, so they can educate their patients on the subject. Those wishing to become involved in dental implant provision will need to seek further reading from a core textbook.

M. Durkan

ESSENTIAL DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH, 2ND EDITION



B. Daly, P. Batchelor,
E. T. Treasure, R. G. Watt
Oxford University Press
price £26.99; pp 264
ISBN 9780199679379

This book identifies the link between public health and clinical practice with a strong emphasis on evidence-based medicine. It is an ideal introduction to public health for dental undergraduates. This 264 page book contains four parts that are split into chapters. The beginning of each chapter features learning objectives and a list of chapter

links to other relevant chapters. This is useful for students and practitioners as many will dive into chapters one at a time and be signposted to others. From first impressions, the layout of the book, with its many diagrams and boxes containing key points, makes it easy to read.

Dental public health is now established as a core topic in undergraduate curricula and is shaping oral health policy and the delivery of oral health services. The authors see dental public health as a way of developing the reader's analytical skills, with an end product of a practitioner who has a wider ethical perspective on his role in providing care within a community and a questioning approach to the delivery of care. This influences the book in that there are many discussion points presented within the text that are designed to stimulate debate and discussion. However, some of the discussion points are very broad, challenging scenarios, which would be difficult for the average undergraduate to consider without the stimulation and help of fellow students or a facilitator. These points would be very useful as material for use in small group teaching of undergraduates, DFTs and SHOs, and would be a good way of getting the most benefit from the book.

Principles of dental public health should be considered as essential as knowing principles of clinical procedures. For the oral health team to reduce dental disease, education is key. The authors have produced a concise summary of dental public health, never an easy thing to produce. It will be invaluable not only for undergraduates but also for professions complimentary to dentistry learning about dental public health. Postgraduate students and practitioners will find it a useful reference. I found it to be well laid out, interesting and a very readable book. I'm sure I will refer to it at various times throughout my dental career.

F. Stoops