

**Books, videos, CD-ROMs and any other relevant items submitted for a review in the *BDJ* should be addressed to: Mike Grace, Editor, British Dental Journal, 64 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AL.**

## **Orthodontic applications of osseointegrated implants**

**K. W. Higuchi (ed)**  
**Quintessence Publishing Co Inc, 2000**  
price: £77, pp214 ISBN 0-86715-356-3

This new book discusses the developing area of the use of osseointegrated implants in orthodontic treatment. The editor should be congratulated on bringing together and co-ordinating a team of well respected authorities in this area. His success is not surprising as a common theme throughout the book is that good interdisciplinary co-operation and communication is essential for successful implant use.

The first chapter gives a good history of implant technology and overview of the aims of the book. The following two chapters explain the detailed planning involved and the practical aspects of the provision of implants in multidisciplinary cases. The statement in the summary of Chapter 2 that '...implant anchorage is generally needed for routine orthodontic treatment of children and adolescents...' is not supported by the remainder of the text and I would suggest that 'not' has been omitted from the sentence. The technique for implant placement described in Chapter 3 involves a significant number of radiographs that perhaps would be difficult to justify.

The next three chapters discuss the biomechanical principles of orthodontic implant loading and the use of classic implants and surface 'on-plants' as orthodontic anchorage. These sections illustrate the theory with a number of case studies. Chapter 7 examines the role of the restorative dentist in treatment planning. Consideration of implant use in the growing individual is given in the next chapter and the problems that can occur. Emphasis is given to the use of hand-wrist radiographs to assess the stage of an individual's growth, however, this is not generally recommended in the UK. Chapter 9 undertakes review of

bone biology/metabolism and the bone/implant interface. The final chapter looks at the scope for the use of implants in distraction osteogenesis cases.

The text is clear, easy to understand and all chapters are well referenced. Although being well illustrated with numerous colour photographs, diagrams and B/W drawings, it is frustrating when the referenced figure is a number of pages away from the associated text. Another minor irritation is the poor labelling/alignment of a number of illustrations.

This book is aimed at the orthodontist working in a multidisciplinary team. It gives practical details as well as the theory behind the use and effects of implants in different situations. It demonstrates the scope of implants for anchorage support in routine adult orthodontic cases, in patients with compromised dentitions, in areas under development such as distraction osteogenesis and in the growing individual with the use of on-plants. There are a number of beautifully illustrated cases. It stresses the multidisciplinary nature and the need for careful joint planning of these patients and gives an excellent balanced insight into the possible uses of implants in orthodontics. I would recommend the book for clinicians working in this area.

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**N. E. Atack**

## **Contemporary issues in oral cancer**

**D. Saranath (ed)**  
**Oxford University Press, 2000**  
price £25, pp405 ISBN 0-19-565023-9

There are few good texts that conclusively review current aspects of the aetiology, pathogenesis, and perhaps most importantly for the readership of the *BDJ*, the outcomes of effective therapy of oral squamous cell carcinoma (SCC). Unfortunately I do not believe that the present book provides a notably useful review of all of these areas of interest, and certainly the book's contents do not live up to its title.

This book comprises 17 chapters that together set out to provide a review of the current aspects of the epidemiology, aetiology, pathogenesis and treatment of oral SCC. Of note perhaps almost two-thirds of the text is devoted to aspects of the management of this cancer. The book is actually based upon reviews of relevant aspects of oral cancer, presented at an international conference held in 1997 and as such

the data and supporting references are 3 years out of date — hence the text is not particularly 'contemporary'. The contributors are principally drawn from India, Italy, the UK and the USA, and as a consequence biases emerge, particularly with regard to aspects of contemporary treatment modalities.

The opening chapters consider the epidemiology and molecular pathogenesis of oral SCC pretty well, the salient points of these subjects being generally covered, although the data of the genetic aspects of oral SCC are out of date, as this is a rapidly changing area of knowledge. The role of viruses in oral SCC was generally well reviewed. Although of some interest the chapters on immunological aspects of oral SCC contained little data specific to oral tumours, and the importance of the immune system in the aetiology and management of oral SCC was overplayed.

The remaining 10 chapters provide overviews of current and innovative therapies, and preventative aspects of oral SCC. The chapter on surgical treatment is not notably informative, indeed in some instances the surgical management of a particular lesion was summarised in a single paragraph, without the inclusion of any helpful relevant references. The details on photodynamic therapy while useful are of course superseded by more recent work and it was quite unclear if fluorescent imaging techniques have true application in the diagnosis and treatment of oral SCC. The final chapters on immunotherapy and gene therapy for oral SCC provided interesting overviews of these areas.

The post-treatment management of patients is not considered and the psychological aspects of the diagnosis and treatment of oral malignancy not included. The illustrations are quite dreadful, and there is a paucity of helpful tables.

Unfortunately this text is not a review of the contemporary aspects of oral cancer. It is simply a series of overviews of some of the relevant areas of the epidemiology, pathogenesis and management of oral SCC. A number of pertinent aspects of oral cancer are not considered and the contents are certainly not contemporary. This text is only of interest to those wishing to write a review of one of the areas covered in the book. I would suggest that interested clinicians, scientists and patients would gain more from recent peer-reviewed articles (many of which can be down-loaded via the World Wide Web) than reading this book.

**[BDJ 843]**

**S. Porter**