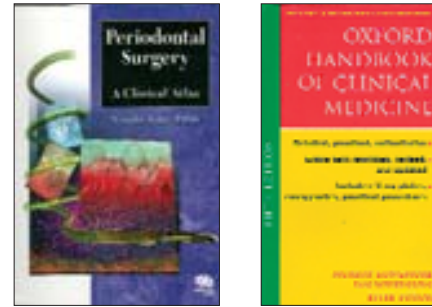


Books, videos, cd-roms, dvds and any other relevant items submitted for a review in the BDJ should be addressed to:
Mike Grace, Editor, British Dental Journal,
64 Wimpole Street WIG 8YS



Periodontal Surgery – A Clinical Atlas

N. Sato

London: Quintessence Publishing Company Inc.
2000, price £183.00, pp 446 ISBN 0-7236-10630

Outstanding photographs, lifelike diagrams and analysis of the relevant literature are the main features of this book. Professor Sato, from Yuzawa, Japan, has been photographing and publishing his surgery for many years and the experience clearly shows.

The aim of the book is to 'explore the multitude of options in periodontal surgery, with an emphasis on contemporary regenerative procedures'. It is surprising, therefore, that the techniques described in such glorious detail do not include the use of some of the materials currently favoured both in Scandinavia and North America. In particular, the newer particulate grafting materials such as bovine collagen, and bioactive glasses do not get a mention and the collagen membranes are also ignored, as too are calcium sulphate barrier techniques, and tricalcium phosphate/calcium sulphate mixtures.

It could be argued that the techniques involved in the use of these newer materials differs little from those described for open curettage and grafting of demineralised bone, however their absence from the literature reviews casts a shadow over the book's claim to be contemporaneous.

The book is divided into six chapters beginning with objectives and techniques, and confusing the reader with two chapters, two and six, which seem to duplicate each other, titled *increasing the attached gingiva* and *periodontal plastic surgery*. The distinction seems to be the use of mucogingival techniques in conjunction with pocket elimination in the earlier chapter, versus the use of gingival grafting to correct recession defects in the later chapter.

The intervening three chapters deal with regeneration using flap curettage, guided tissue regeneration, and guided bone

regeneration. The section dealing with root coverage procedures is particularly well done, and the book contains well designed flow diagrams to help the reader to choose the appropriate technique for each clinical situation.

Soft tissue surgery associated with implants is prominently featured and the surgical techniques illustrated, while not necessarily innovative, are clearly explained by the colourful diagrams and fabulous pictures.

Although not a book for the GDP, the aesthetic pleasure of this book makes it worth owning by the periodontal surgical enthusiast and the clearly illustrated surgical principles commend it to advanced students of the specialty. Although rather heavy and expensive it is likely to repay its owners in many different ways by inspiring a constant quest for improvement towards surgical excellence.

Philip R. Greene [BR5027]

Oxford Handbook of Clinical Medicine

M. Longmore, I. Wilkinson and E. Torok
Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001
price £15.95, pp857 ISBN 0-1926-29883

This is the 5th edition of the highly popular handbook which to date has sold more than 500,000 copies in 12 languages.

The entire text has been rewritten, revised and updated and, in less than 850 pages covers the whole of medicine including epidemiology, cardiovascular medicine, chest medicine, gastroenterology, renal medicine, endocrinology, neurology, rheumatology, oncology, surgery, geriatric medicine, infectious diseases, haematology, clinical chemistry and emergencies. It is difficult to see how this coverage could be improved, as the book is a superb information source, complemented with radiographs, practical procedures interesting anecdotes and historical points. Occasional spelling errors (eg pulmar erythema p416) and Americanisms (eg sulfur p61) must be

forgiven but relegation of psychiatry to two pages is surprising!

The book is not intended for a dental audience, who might be disappointed, for example, by reference to rhoboid tongue (p48), the superficial coverage of facial pain (p58) without mention of TMJ pain-dysfunction, and erythema multiforme (p416), and omission of lichen planus, pemphigus and the sub-epithelial immune blistering disorders. However halitosis is covered well (p60) and one complete page is devoted to the mouth, one on salivary glands and one on the neck – comparable coverage as to be found in some other medical texts. The dental audience would here disagree with a number of points. Not all 'aphthae heal without scarring'. Aphthae may be associated with Crohns disease, coeliac disease and Behcet's disease but not as frequently as the text suggests, and aphthae are more frequently associated with problems not mentioned here. Few would agree that poor dental hygiene, sepsis, aphthous stomatitis, papilloma, verucca, or secondary syphilis are causes of leucoplakia. Most oral hyperpigmentation has causes omitted from the list (racial pigmentation, smoking, amalgam, tattoos, melanotic macules). That tongue 'black discoloration may be due to *Aspergillus niger* infection' is certainly pushing credulity, as is the comment that geographic tongue 'may follow riboflavin deficiency'. I may even have benefited by suggestions that *Campylobacter jejuni* causes 'oral ulcer and stomatitis' and *Peptostreptococcus magnams* 'teeth infection' (p623)!? Finally, mention of oral cancer is restricted to tongue cancer and with a very optimistic figure for 5-year survival. Penciclovir cream deserves mention under recurrent HSV (p570). Perhaps the next edition should be scrutinised by a dentally-qualified individual, since these sections are at best inaccurate, and in some areas frankly misleading, and omit common problems such as oral dysaesthesia.

Nevertheless, despite these misgivings it is a very worthwhile purchase.

Crispian Scully CBE [BR5015]