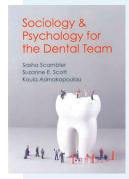
Books for dental care professionals

Dental professionals review some of the latest publications on the market.

Sociology and psychology for the dental team

This book is written by Sacha Scambler, Suzanne E. Scott and Koula Asmakopoulou and published by Polity. It costs £21.99 (ISBN 9780745654348).



ombining the disciplines of social and behavioural sciences in text seems a tough task, but this book manages to do so very well. Engaging text and clarity of illustrated tables and charts bring the theories and evidence together in a way that

facilitates referencing with ease. Scambler and Asimakopoulou present the 'human side' of dentistry; they place the provision and perception surrounding oral healthcare in the context of today's contemporary society using logical sequencing and accessible language throughout.

At first glance this book looks like it might be best placed amongst those textbooks that line your dusty shelf reminding you of endless days of study. There is clear focus on giving the reader well referenced critical introductions to theories and practice whilst introducing current online sources of discussion alongside journals. The format

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presents easy access to clearly defined subject matter and leaves plenty of margin room for personal notes. The discussion points prompt your own critical thinking as well as cementing the high tariff points in the text. This makes it ideal as a teaching aid for all team members from undergraduate through to post-doctoral level.

Further reading begins to uncover a much broader and current target audience, those in dentistry who seek to understand the journey to best practices for both patients and team members: in this group I would include the coaches and trainers in our industry. The focus on behavioural science is well thought out; there are definitely passages that you could read



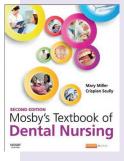
today and work with a sense of informed practice tomorrow.

There is value in the book's content for the whole dental team, not just directed at how we work with the patients, but how we work with each other. No doubt it will find itself a future on the dental student's reading list, and I am sure there will be new editions in years to come. I would suggest this book should be as far away from your dusty shelf as possible, deserving to be well thumbed and bursting with post-its and scribbles that refer to practice, training, provision and policy. It is the most relevant book of its kind.

Sarah (Bobby) Keeling RDH Dip Dent Hygiene AdvDIHP (CCTS) (pictured)

Mosby's textbook of dental nursing, 2nd edition

This book is written by Mary Miller and Crispian Scully and published by Elsevier. It costs £34.99 (ISBN 9780702062377).



This textbook is easy to read and navigate through. It is clearly divided into broad sections covering topics from chairside dental care to relevant legislation and standards. Important facts are laid out in 'Key Points' boxes and crucial

definitions are outlined. There are also 'Find out more' areas that highlight resources (such as website links to guidelines and articles) should the reader wish to further their knowledge. The 'Identify and Learn' sections

have some appeal as they encourage the reader to study and relate to their surroundings. Examples include identifying a local NHS dentist that patients can register with, or recognising specific materials used in practice.

The content itself is largely well written, offering depth and background to the reader. In the anatomy and charting sections, the use of clearly described and labelled images effectively complements the text. Consequently, traditionally challenging topics are made more comprehensible.

As the second edition, this updated version includes various additions, most notably information on the appropriate use of social media. Given the widespread use of multiple social media outlets, advice on how to avoid litigation and ensure proper conduct 'online' in accordance with the GDC standards is a smart and relevant inclusion.

For student dental nurses preparing to sit for

examinations, the textbook seems to be a good source of revision. Similar to many textbooks, there is the option to download an image bank and practise multiple choice questions (MCQs) from the accompanying website, to help test and consolidate knowledge.

The reader must be aware that the textbook follows the National Examining Board for Dental Nurses (NEBDN) and is aligned with their qualification requirements. Different institutions may suggest students use other publications thus it is important to liaise with relevant staff. It is also wise to flick through this textbook in order to familiarise yourself and determine whether the style is suited to you.

Overall, the textbook adopts a holistic approach to patient care. Delivery of relevant legislative and regulatory information is well considered and appropriate emphasis has also been placed on ethical and professional practice. *N. Doshi*