Books for dental care professionals

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

Local anesthesia for the dental hygienist, 2nd edition

This book is written by Demetra Daskalos Logothetis and published by Elsevier. It costs around £52.19 (see www.elsevierhealth.co.uk) (ISBN 9780323396332).

This book was such an interesting and easy read for me and I'm sure those who have been in this profession for over 20 years will have longed for an informative and supportive textbook like this.

It is a guide to successfully

administering pain-free anaesthesia.

Dental hygienist and accomplished author Demetra Logothetis, who has over 15 years' experience in teaching local anaesthesia and pain control, has written this excellent reference textbook that includes material aimed at the student dental hygienist. It helps prepare the reader for confident and successful administration of local anaesthesia.

The information contained in the book is

presented well and is clear and easy to follow. Each chapter begins with learning objectives, culminating in goals that will be achieved, and ends with review questions – an important aid for good revision practice.

Case studies are included throughout – relating to problem solving and reassuring the clinician to overcome and acknowledge patients' needs. This leads me on to the inclusion and focus in the book on the human-need theory and understanding patients' perceptions of local anaesthesia.

The human-need paradigm helps the clinician understand the relationship between human needs fulfilment and human behaviour: surely being able to read and understand how patients may perceive treatment will demonstrate in establishing a stress-free dental experience for both clinician and patient.

For me, treating and alleviating dental pain with effective anaesthesia is such an asset! An inexperienced student will gain confidence from the chapter on basic injection techniques. It includes superb steps, helpful techniques, and useful, high-quality colour photos carrying out specific procedures.

The book also looks at operator and patient positioning; insertion points; amount of anaesthesia required; working time; anatomy; sharps management; infection control; maxillary and mandibular injections; and has distinctive summaries reviewing concepts, procedures, techniques and effects. In addition it contains a useful glossary.

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This second edition of the book also focuses on delivery techniques and protocol required for paediatric and adolescent patients.

I would, without hesitation, encourage and recommend this textbook to the student hygienist, including it in their essential revision reading. I would also recommend it to the qualified hygienist as a superlative reference.

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Dental radiology

This book is written by Andrea Fuhrmann and published by Thieme. It costs £36 (ISBN 9783132004214).

This comprehensive book is an excellent resource for all dental professionals including undergraduate students, dental nurses and practising dentists. It provides a broad overview on the theory of dental radiology

and a detailed coverage on the different radiological procedures.

The first half of the book focuses on radiation physics, the biology of radiation effects and radiation pathology. This is a

very useful revision tool for anyone looking to refresh their knowledge on the effects of radiation.

'An excellent resource for all dental professionals including undergraduate students, dental nurses and practising dentists'

The book also covers in depth the fundamentals of dental radiography, including exposure techniques, radiation safety and film processing. There are plenty of radiographic images, clinical photos and step-by-step illustrations to help aid the understanding of radiographic procedures.

The use of advanced imaging methods

such as conventional tomography (CT) and cone beam computed tomography (CBCT) is covered in detail.

There is a chapter on the basic principles of radiation protection and quality assurance in dental radiology. It provides a good explanation of the standards governing dental radiology and will help dental professionals ensure compliance with the guidelines in place within the dental setting.

The last chapter is of particular use to students and dentists, containing a section on the assessment and diagnosis of radiographic findings, including the most common pathological changes.

In brief, the book is easy to read, providing essential overall understanding of dental radiology and key concepts. I certainly recommend this book for anyone looking for an effective revision guide.

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