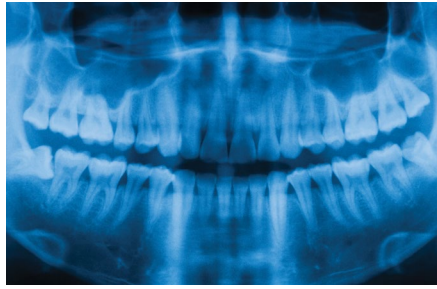


## BSPD demands end to unethical age-profiling dental x-rays

The President of the British Society of Paediatric Dentistry (BSPD), Professor Paula Waterhouse, has called for an end to the unethical practice of taking dental x-rays for asylum seekers in an attempt to verify age. BSPD is speaking out following the news in early January that the Home Office will be using teeth and bone x-rays to verify the age of asylum seekers arriving in the UK.

BSPD has learnt that the Home Office's new legislation that they have now approved for practice came into force on 10 January. The details outline the use of what the Home Office calls 'scientific methods' to be used to assess the age of asylum seekers to the UK using radiographs of molars, hands and wrists, as well as MRI scans of thigh bones and



collarbones. Failure to comply can incur penalties.

Professor Paula Waterhouse, BSPD President, said: 'Age profiling using dental x-rays has absolutely no evidence base whatsoever. This wholly inaccurate approach to assessing the age of those seeking asylum in this country is morally wrong, because it means that vulnerable children will be

exposed to unnecessary radiation without any clinical benefit.

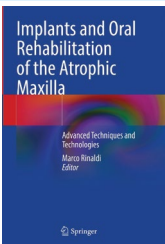
'We have been through this debate on numerous occasions and believed that it had been shelved for good. Frustratingly, it appears this is not the case. The discussion around using x-rays for age profiling asylum seekers has been debated for nearly two decades. Our members will not be taking x-rays unless they are clinically justified.

'BSPD calls on the Government to stop this immoral and unethical practice once and for all.'

### References

1. Immigration and Asylum. The Immigration (Age Assessments) Regulations 2024. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2024/19/made> (accessed January 2024).

### BOOK REVIEW



## IMPLANTS AND ORAL REHABILITATION OF THE ATROPHIC MAXILLA

Editor: Marco Rinaldi;  
2023; Springer Cham;  
£179.99 (hardcover); pp. 620;  
ISBN: 978-3-031-12755-7

*Implants and oral rehabilitation of the atrophic maxilla* is a comprehensive guide offering valuable insights and strategies to address the challenges associated with implant rehabilitation in atrophic maxilla conditions. Authored by renowned stalwarts in the field of implantology all across the globe and edited by well-known implantologist Dr Marco Rinaldi, this book serves as a beacon for seasoned practitioners and aspiring dental professionals seeking to enhance their knowledge in implantology.

The initial section of the book systematically delves into 12 chapters, thoroughly examining the conceptual and rational foundations pertaining to the implant rehabilitation of atrophic maxilla, whereas the latter part of the book extensively presents a diverse range of clinical scenarios and surgical techniques.

The first two chapters throw light on the general considerations related to the anatomy and various surgical techniques involved in the treatment of atrophic maxilla. Transitioning from the conventional techniques and integrating the modern diagnostic tools such as cone beam computed tomography (CBCT), computer-aided design (CAD), finite element analysis (FEA), additive manufacturing along with digital engineering in various clinical applications were well elaborated. The simplified detailing of computer-guided surgical planning and implant placement in atrophic jaws was noteworthy. In addition, these technologies were shown to be useful in post-oncological and post-traumatic maxillary reconstruction as well as in bone grafting procedures.

Comprehending the complexity of atrophic maxillary rehabilitation, the authors have discussed in detail dynamic

navigation systems and robotics; application of tilted implants; various zygomatic implant approaches including the zygoma anatomy-guided approach (ZAGA concept); pterygoid implants; and additively manufactured subperiosteal jaw implants. Furthermore, application of short implants and their rehabilitation with TRINIA full arch prostheses, 'All-on-4' concepts, and Malo classification were explained.

A notable feature of this book is the incorporation of evidence-based practices. Dr Marco Rinaldi meticulously reviews the latest research findings, integrating them into the decision-making process for treatment planning. This evidence-based approach not only keeps readers abreast of the current best practices but also instils confidence in their ability to tackle atrophic maxilla cases with efficacy. The inclusion of an exemplary array of clinical cases, coupled with sequential illustrative images, elevates this book to a practical guide for everyday clinical practice. All these features make this book an essential read for those committed to delivering optimal patient care in the dynamic field of atrophic maxilla rehabilitation.

**Achsah Ann Thomas**