

Book reviews

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PRACTICAL ADVANCED PERIODONTAL SURGERY



S. Dibart (ed)
UK: Wiley
price £39.50; pp 192
ISBN 9780813809571

This text seems to be aimed at more experienced and specialised dentists. It 'offers a step-by-step guide to cutting edge surgical techniques' to provide predictable solutions to the daily challenges experienced by clinicians.

The initial chapters review the topics of bone physiology and the principles of wound healing, with special focus on the periodontium. Following this, the book highlights the vast scope of periodontal surgery and its dependence on other dental specialities to improve treatment outcomes. Non-periodontal specialists can gain a perspective on the relationship between their input and patient treatment outcomes.

Each clinical chapter provides the author with cases to follow. The methodology of case management is consistent, discussing case prognosis and evidence based rationale. The text is supplemented with many appropriate illustrations and relevant photographs. For those who are keen, ample material can be referred to and found at the end of each chapter. There is a well listed index that aids navigation around the book.

Readers of this text will be aware that the authors are based in the United States. The questionable translation to UK practice and its relevance may be highlighted with two points. Firstly, the scope of periodontal surgery differs in both countries.

Secondly, the chapter on (periodontal) oral medicine discusses cases which may be deemed inappropriate for management by clinicians outside the hospital service. However, the text on the whole demonstrates predictable periodontal surgery and its use by various practitioners.

I believe that some sections of this text would be beyond the scope of most general practitioners and undergraduate students. This leaves enhanced generalists, postgraduate students, trainee and established specialists with a concise yet comprehensive text. The easy-to-read format interspersed with colourful examples of procedures makes it accessible and stimulating.

This text is unique, practical and reader friendly. It focuses on the importance of evidence based contemporary and multi-disciplinary management. I would recommend it as essential reading, especially for trainee periodontists.

M. M. Zbaeda

COMMUNITY ORAL HEALTH



C. Pine, R. Harris
UK: Quintessence
price £50.00; pp 306
ISBN 9781850970927

This book is the second edition of *Community oral health* and was published in 2007; it is aimed at training dental undergraduate and graduate students in public health. The book aims to provide a comprehensive overview in the field of community oral health (dental public health) and to provide evidence supporting this topic for the use of oral health professionals.

There are a total of 19 chapters divided into four sections: public health,

epidemiology, oral health promotion and health sciences. Each chapter is opened with a chapter overview and list of key words; these key words then feature in bold throughout the text. Chapters are concluded with a question, and an ideal structured answer is given. This provides a very useful summary, and revision aid.

There are good links to an extensive number of references. The reader is also provided with further recommended reading and websites to seek up-to-date information on current public health issues such as water fluoridation policies in the UK.

Chapters are long, and due to the lack of colour and photographs this book is not always easy reading. Many figures and tables support the text throughout, and these are generally well explained and aid the reader's understanding of the topic.

Many of the topics link clinical aspects of dentistry to public health which makes interesting reading and provides a refreshing review of topics such as diet advice and fluoridation. Linking aspects of dental public health to clinical topics such as dental caries, tooth wear and oral cancer increases its relevance and makes the topic easier to grasp.

The major drawback of this book is that it lacks an index. Since the book is most likely to be used by undergraduates, or as a method of studying, an index would allow quick access to the information required.

Overall this book is an interesting read, and a good source of public health information in relation to dental care. The book provides a variety of interesting evidence supporting dental public health, making this book relevant to all dental care professionals.

M. A. Bussell