

# Book reviews

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## SUTURING TECHNIQUES IN ORAL SURGERY



S. Siervo

UK: Quintessence

price £105.00; pp 240

ISBN 9788874921701

For many operations in oral surgery, optimal suturing determines the success of the procedure. The intention of the book is to highlight the importance of soft tissue management in oral surgery when the correct functional and aesthetic result is to be achieved. The general layout of the book is well structured with the contents divided into four logical subsections including surgical wound healing, technological aspects (ie suture materials), auxiliary materials (ie instruments used), and clinical applications for different suturing methods.

The surgical wound healing section provides an overview of the physiology and histology of tissue healing. The author highlights the need for a fundamental understanding of the different healing processes for various tissue types since each requires separate suturing materials and techniques to achieve optimal results. The clinical applications section is colourfully presented with useful step by step technique illustrations to demonstrate a wide range of sutures. Intraoral clinical photographs of 14 case studies are used to demonstrate the relevance of various sutures to clinical practice with an emphasis on implantology and periodontal surgery.

The text suggests that 'at present non resorbable sutures are undoubtedly the family of sutures most widely used in oral surgery'. This advice may not be

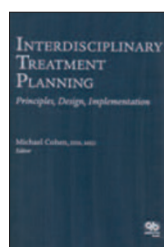
consistent with everyday practice within the UK. One consideration is that the book has been produced by and possibly designed for the European market.

The book may be a useful adjunct or reference guide for anyone who is contemplating carrying out minor oral surgical procedures, for the undergraduate who is practising their first sutures, and for practitioners who need to develop an understanding of diverse suturing skills.

In summary, this relatively expensive book is well presented with ample illustrations. It is, however, a fairly bulky hardback considering that it only outlines the fundamentals of intraoral suturing techniques. The step by step technique illustrations are useful, however many of the intraoral clinical photographs lack relevance. There is perhaps some unnecessary detail included on the restorative and implantology techniques used in the case studies. Perhaps welcome would be an inclusion on flap design and perioral wound management.

C. Harte

## INTERDISCIPLINARY TREATMENT PLANNING



M. Cohen

UK: Quintessence

price £173.00; pp 568

ISBN 9780867154740

This is the first edition of this textbook edited by Dr Michael Cohen with contributions from 17 clinicians.

It is not the first title of its kind. In an era of clinical scenario-based learning an increasing number of authors have assumed this popular editing style. Its

aim is to present cases from all major specialties of dentistry with an emphasis on, as the title suggests, a multidisciplinary team approach.

It is divided into 17 sections where each chapter stands alone. The clinicians presenting their individual cases introduce themselves and their area of interest in a section termed 'Philosophy and background' before a lengthy presentation of the decision making key points. Extensive anatomy and biomolecular science issues are explored *vis à-vis* the disease process encountered in the patient. A significant part of each scenario is devoted to the initial patient consultation which is presented to the reader along with dental casts, clinical photographs and radiographs. The book content is extremely well illustrated, with pre and post clinical radiographs and photographs accompanying the decision-making steps of the dentist.

The book's audience is probably quite limited with the treatment proposed probably too complex to be undertaken in a primary care setting. Also, the disease naming and tooth numbering system used indicates the book is more intended for the American market.

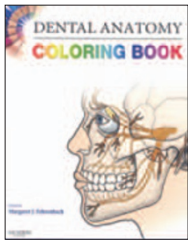
A great deal of the treatment proposed involves radical preparation of tooth tissue and extraction of otherwise healthy teeth to accommodate multiple implant placements. This practice, though of some clinical merit, may contradict current undergraduate teaching in the UK which values the preservation of the patient's own dentition.

Ultimately, though well intentioned, in my opinion this book is unworkable both in terms of size and content. At just over 5 kg with its illustrious cover, it is a behemoth in a world of pocket sized

clinical dentistry books. However, the clinical pictures which are found in abundance can be used as an undergraduate teaching tool or potentially as a useful reference in a restorative department library.

I. Levisianos

### DENTAL ANATOMY COLORING BOOK



M. J. Fehrenbach (ed)  
UK: Elsevier  
price £14.99; pp 368  
ISBN 1416047891

This is the latest in the series of books designed to teach anatomy through the colouring-in of line drawings, and focuses on the specialised anatomy required by dental professionals. There is much in this book that will be found valuable by all students though it is not always sufficiently detailed in its approach, especially for dental students. Teachers of anatomy may also find this book helpful when designing line illustrations for their own teaching.

The value of such a book should be no surprise for there is a long tradition of teaching of anatomy by means of line illustrations, drawn on the blackboard, used in teaching materials or in textbooks, which are designed to simplify anatomy for students starting their studies. This book presents a series of line diagrams that the students colour for themselves. The diagrams have numbered leader lines with the labels given in a table below each diagram so that students can mask these out for purposes of self-testing. Students report that they find this can be an effective supplementary method for learning anatomy.

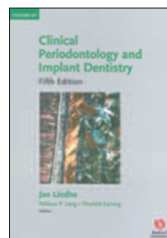
The book is intended to provide complete coverage of the anatomy of the head and neck and is organised systematically. There is no descriptive text beyond the code for the labels and so this book would need to be supplemented by an appropriate textbook. Many chapters are successful, some less so. Within the muscular and arterial systems and tissue spaces chapters many of the diagrams work well in giving clear illustrations

of the structures in question. The nervous system chapter provides concise, synoptic summaries of the anatomy of the trigeminal and facial nerves. In the dentition chapter the diagrams of tooth morphology were extremely valuable though the dental histology was lacking in detail. However, in the skeletal system chapter while some diagrams were very clear others were over-simplified, such as the skull, or confusing, such as the pterygopalatine fossa. Least successful were the first two chapters giving overviews of the body and orofacial anatomy. These diagrams were often highly simplified and certainly not at a level suitable for most dental students though students unfamiliar with biology might find them a helpful starting point. Though the decision to adopt a systematic approach means the diagrams are relatively uncluttered including at least some regional diagrams would have given greater scope to demonstrate the interrelationships of structures in clinically-important regions (eg the floor of mouth, parotid region, infratemporal fossa or neck).

In summary, a book that can be recommended as an additional means of learning anatomy for many dental professionals though it may be felt that its lack of detail in some areas limits its value.

S. McHanwell

### CLINICAL PERIODONTOLOGY AND IMPLANT DENTISTRY, 5TH EDITION



J. Lindhe, N. P. Lang,  
T. Karring  
UK: Wiley-Blackwell  
price £145.00; pp 1340  
ISBN 9781405160995

This is the fifth edition of a well known textbook written by Jan Lindhe with over 55 internationally respected contributors. It initially began as a periodontology book and later expanded to encompass implants. It arrives as a rather lavish two volume hardback set comprising a staggering 1,340 pages. Volume 1 deals with basic concepts and volume 2 moves onto more clinical concepts.

The index is well laid out and helps to locate specific information if required. Volume 1 has sections such as anatomy, micro-biology, epidemiology and pathology, which are further sub-divided into chapters. Most chapters begin with fundamentals and quickly move on to more advanced concepts. These are well presented and the text itself is easy to read. Also, almost every page within this book has a diagram or colour illustration to aid the text. Numerous references are quoted and the bibliographies allow for ample extra reading should one wish to.

Most of the basic topics are dealt with such as histology of various oral structures, periodontal pathology and associated factors. Some of these more basic chapters can be sparse however, for example with chronic periodontitis only being seven pages in length. Considering how complex this subject is I'm surprised at its lack of detail. There are also some unusual (and topical) chapters covered such as periodontal disease as a risk to systemic disease, and motivational interviewing, which were both very interesting to read.

The clinical topics are extremely well dealt with. Complex procedures are logically explained through text and illustrations. Potentially confusing topics such as antimicrobial therapy are also dealt with in a clear and concise manner. One of the criticisms of earlier editions of this book was that implants were not incorporated well enough. This appears to have been rectified with implants appearing appropriately even in some of the very early chapters. Implants themselves are well covered with at least nine chapters related to them specifically. Most chapters will have some cases presented along with pictures, radiographs and the surgery involved shown which will be of help to those beginning implant placement.

This is a comprehensive textbook for periodontology and moderately so for implantology and this combination is highlighted by the high price. It is useful to those at all stages of their undergraduate career which extends to those in specialist practice, research or those with an interest in implantology.

K. Voruganti