Book reviews

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REVIEWS

PRACTICAL LESSONS IN ENDODONTIC TREATMENT

D. E. Arens, A. H. Gluskin
UK: Quintessence
price £82.00; pp 344
ISBN 9780867144832

This book has been written by four professors in endodontics based in America and is the successor of *Practical lessons in endodontic surgery*. The aim of the book is to provide the reader with a practical, easy-to-use, lay-flat workbook in endodontics, focussing on essential, practical strategies that provide reliable endodontic care for patients.

The book will assist undergraduates and qualified dentists and their support staff in implementing technological and procedural recommendations that help to simplify daily routine, help build confidence and skill, and enhance treatment outcomes.

All chapters which are further divided into several lessons are presented well. Each lesson consists of clear clinical photographs, radiographs and images of relevant equipment, and is divided well with various subheadings. Each lesson presents a different component of endodontic therapy supported by simple step-by-step clinical procedures, succinct tips and recommendations. Readers will find assistance on an array of endodontic challenges in each chapter. References supporting literature are provided throughout the text.

Chapter 1 covers medical, clinical and radiographic examination and diagnosis. Chapter 2 examines treatment strategies and decision-making, and includes a lesson on endodontic vs. implant therapy

for a single tooth. Chapter 3 describes preparation for treatment, which includes types of instruments, infection control, local anaesthesia and use of rubber dam. Chapter 4 goes on to explore canal instrumentation, encompassing shaping, disinfection and case management. Chapter 5 presents endodontic obturation. The sixth and final chapter, chapter 6, covers emergency and adjunctive endodontic procedures, for example treatment for primary teeth, apexification, bleaching and restoration of endodontically treated teeth.

There is a list of suggested readings at the end of the book, which provides the reader with a good reference guide. Unfortunately there is no glossary of terms for quick reference.

The aim of the book is well met by the authors by providing straightforward discussions that concentrate on key concepts, rather than a vast amount of theoretical information. However, if further detail is needed on a certain topic further reading may be required. This book can be recommended as an excellent guide for undergraduate students and qualified dentists towards providing relevant practical tips and clinical information.

H. Kalsi

PROBLEMS IN ENDODONTICS: ETIOLOGY, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT

M. Hulsman, E. Schafer
UK: Quintessence
price £198.00; pp 600
ISBN 9781850971832

As stated by the authors, this book is a compendium of amassed knowledge

including expert clinical advice and detail, whilst strengthened throughout by the inclusion of key findings and data from scientific literature.

The first chapter addresses the aetiology of dental pain, highlighting the importance of a systematic evaluation of both diagnostic techniques and the anatomical structures. Potentially lengthy subjects such as craniomandibular dysfunction are dealt with in a topical and concise way, providing the reader with key points they will actually remember in clinic.

From a holistic aspect, a chapter is devoted to health related problems and the need for competency in treating those who are medically compromised in order to provide safe and appropriate care.

The remaining chapters look specifically at individual aspects of endodontic treatment. Pre-operative restoration and placement of rubber dam gives clear aims and indications for retaining or removing existing restorations, and subsequently guiding the reader through the world of rubber dam with techniques on how to master its use.

An important chapter on dental anaesthesia is both excellently described and illustrated. It emphasises, for example, the need for small access cavities when attempting the intrapulpal injection to ensure success, whilst including the relevant literary evidence to support the advice.

The treatment of endodontic emergencies will certainly appeal to the busy dental practitioner, as analgesics, abscesses and pain from previously endodontically treated teeth are covered. On a technical note, the book provides the specialists' view on access, working length, canal