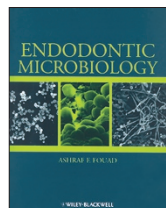


Another chapter which singularly justifies book purchase is the special treatment of furcation involved teeth. Following trend the chapter begins with the basics: classification, predisposing factors etc, and then continues to explain the specifics of treatment for each grade of furcation involvement with clinical photographs of instruments in action, case studies and post treatment radiographs. It comprehensively explains the transitions from basic to advanced treatment, with tooth dependent variations as appropriate, and importantly how to recognise treatment failure.

Ultimately, as clinical cookbook it masterfully fulfils its purpose. Although at times its evidence-based approach reads like PHD thesis, it is overall an excellent reference guide for the step wise planning and practical treatment of periodontal disease.

S. Buckley

ENDODONTIC MICROBIOLOGY



A. F. Fouad
UK: Wiley-Blackwell
price £84.99; pp 352
ISBN 9780813826462

Endodontic microbiology is a surprisingly easy to read book. It covers a huge area of endodontics from molecular analysis of endodontics to the use of systemic antibiotics. Due to the complex nature of the book, it is aimed at the specialist endodontist, but would be useful for general practitioners and students alike wanting to add something to their learning.

The book is very evidence-based and this assures the reader that the points made are up to date. It is well illustrated making some of the more in depth text easier to understand, and perhaps more importantly for the clinician, demonstrates clear links between the microbiological processes and the clinical findings, signs and symptoms.

The chapters in the book are well placed and organised following on from each other in an obvious way. The early chapters summarise the recent developments in microbiology, where we are today and the limits that microbiology has and will encounter in the future, giving the reader

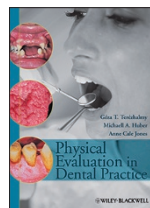
the necessary background knowledge. It then goes on to describe the processes of dental infections including the epidemiology and impact of these diseases, before launching into chapters on the grittier stuff of virulence, bacteria and fungi involved in these processes.

There is an excellent chapter on the management of aggressive head and neck infections associated with odontogenic infections, which is very straightforward yet in depth, with good illustrations allowing the facial planes to be visualised with ease. Another chapter I found very interesting was on the use of systemic antibiotics in endodontics; this chapter explains which antibiotics are useful in what situations and why it is they work, including diagrams, making it easy to understand.

I think overall this is a very informative and useful book, and would be the book of choice once confident with the techniques of endodontics. It is not the cheapest book at £84.99 but for the quality of the text it is fantastic value for money. I would recommend it to all clinicians at any stage in their career that are interested in endodontics.

K. Davis

PHYSICAL EVALUATION IN DENTAL PRACTICE



G. T. Terézhalmy, M. A. Huber,
A. C. Jones
UK: Wiley-Blackwell
price £34.99; pp 242
ISBN 9780813821313

This book appears to encompass the most relevant aspects of dental practice when considering the title and blurb. The aim is to offer a quick 'introductory reference to common pathoses and problems associated with the head and neck' for both dentists and hygienists.

At first glance the book appears to follow a relatively structured format with a relevant, thought out content. However, upon reading I was not convinced. This all-encompassing approach proved to be quite confusing at times.

Chapter 1 describes the steps one would take in the clinical setting and states the patronisingly obvious in the most complicated way. My view is that

it should be omitted from the book completely. Chapter 2 ('The Historical Profile') demonstrates more relevance to the title but after further reading also feels out of place in this textbook. In addition, there are no photographs or diagrams, making the first two chapters rather hard to get through.

Chapters 3 and 4 show a marked difference, with the book changing direction completely. It becomes more clinically relevant with a definitive 'physical examination' structure developing. This logical and clearly presented format is easy to read and understand. A brief summary of various systemic diseases that may present to the dentist are explained. Whilst the detail is remarkably deficient from the level we as dentists require, the photographs are very useful and the text is detailed enough to serve as a revision tool. It is evident here that compromises may have been made in order for the book to appeal to all the clinical disciplines.

Chapter 5 on examining the oral cavity follows suit with the same general paragraph structure, followed by a wealth of clinical photographs.

Chapter 6 ('Radiographic Examination') falls short of even the minimum information one would need in practice. There are about five pages of text and then approximately 20 pages of radiographic images.

Again, the book takes a u-turn. Chapter seven ('Laboratory Methods') is not written from the clinical perspective. It could have been lifted from a biochemistry textbook. For example, defining haemoglobin and why it is measured rather than the effect of anaemia on dental practice makes yet another chapter a misfit. This is contraindicated especially as the reader is expected to have a good understanding of the basic medical sciences in order to understand the earlier chapters.

The contributors to this textbook are mainly oral medicine and pathology specialists from the US; consequently the chapters concerned with these areas are worth a read. However, I found the rest of the book haphazard and difficult to read.

A student dentist could spend their money much more wisely on a textbook specialising in either human disease or oral medicine alone.

C. Woof