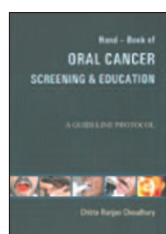


Book reviews

Books, videos, CD-ROMs, DVDs and any other relevant items submitted for a review in the BDJ should be addressed to:

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HAND-BOOK OF ORAL CANCER SCREENING AND EDUCATION: A GUIDELINE PROTOCOL



C. Ranjan Choudhury
Nitte University and
Bournemouth University
price £25.00; pp 116
Email cr_choudhury@
yahoo.co.uk to purchase

Oral cancer is an important health issue and a constant dental public health challenge for most countries around the world, especially those in the sub-continent. Several studies have found that there is a strong link between the incidence of oral cancer and chewing tobacco, better known as 'betel quid', but there is limited information available on the risks involved.

Divided into two parts, the first part of this book is a literature review on the history of tobacco use in India, and the types and constituents of betel quid. Included in this section is the epidemiological profile of quid chewing in India, and how many quid chewers believe that quid chewing relieves dental pain and keeps the teeth strong, resulting in India having the highest rate of oral cancer in the world. This book highlights some alarming and interesting facts. For example, each year 274,300 new cases of oral cancer are diagnosed globally, and this number includes only those who have access to medical services. Highlighted in this section is alarming information on unregulated advertisements within the tobacco industry.

Following on from the literature review, Professor Choudhury and his team describe how they applied the KAP - 'Knowledge, Attitude, Practice' - model to a population attending an outpatient

department in Mangalore, Southern India. As part of this intervention study, over 9,288 subjects are involved from the Mangalore area. The application of this KAP model provides categorical estimates of knowledge, attitude and practices on the risks associated with betel quid use. With such a large number of cases involved in the study, the data from the study provide a great resource. And with an estimated 10% of the world's population having a quid chewing habit, this large intervention study has the ability to increase awareness and educate us on how to manage the associated problems.

With this KAP model, Professor Choudhury and his team have developed a cost effective and non-invasive screening method which has great potential for assessing victims and potential victims of oral cancer, which one would hope, should lay the foundation for saving millions of lives.

Professor Choudhury presents over 60 illustrations of selected oral lesions related to quid chewing, which are very useful for diagnostic aids. For those who are interested in the genetics of oral cancer and pre-cancerous lesions, there are four scientific papers on lab-based research including gene expression and gene mutations in oral cancer and a non-invasive trial. This lab-based research along with illustrations provides a great resource for study and would be a great aid for teachers, students and researchers.

The author's commitment to research and public health is exemplified in this book. I think that this publication will contribute to further research in the epidemic of tobacco-related diseases.

E. Hurley

KEEP YOURSELF HEALTHY: A GUIDE TO A HEALTHY MOUTH



Family Advice & Information
Resource (FAIR)

UK: Health Scotland

price £1; email multimedia@
fairadvice.org.uk

or tel 0131 662 1962; pp 13

ISBN 1844853217

Keep yourself healthy is a series of health promotion booklets produced for people with learning disabilities by FAIR Multimedia, an independent company. The pamphlet *Keep yourself healthy: a guide to a healthy mouth* is designed to provide oral health messages in a manner appropriate for people with learning disabilities. It aims to equip this patient group with the knowledge for achieving and maintaining oral health. This pamphlet is produced in association with Community Nurses for People with Learning Disabilities and the Community Dental Services. It is published by NHS Health Scotland and is also available in Chinese.

This 16-page A5 pamphlet contains fundamental oral health advice, delivered in a clear and concise manner. Each page is dedicated to one key message, such as the importance of healthy teeth and gums, regular toothbrushing, the effects of smoking, dietary influences, and regular attendance at a dental clinic. The messages are delivered through the use of short, simple, easy-to-read sentences. For example, sentences such as 'teeth help you eat food properly' and 'smoking is bad for your teeth too' are used to convey key information. The booklet also displays colourful illustrations on each page, using a multi-cultural approach, with cartoon figures of various ethnic backgrounds.

This booklet provides essential and relevant oral health messages to patients with learning disabilities. It is well designed and the illustrations enhance the overall layout. The language used is suitable for the target reader and avoids jargon. There is an appropriate amount of information per page and a suitable font size is used.

All dental professionals should ensure that their patients receive appropriate oral health information tailored to each patient's level of understanding. This pamphlet is a valuable resource for anyone who is required to provide oral health advice to patients with learning disabilities.

N. V. Nayer

CLINICIAN'S HANDBOOK OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY



D. Laskin
UK: Quintessence
price £48.00; pp 404
ISBN 9781850972020

This is an A5-sized ring bound book aiming to supplement other available more extensive OMFS texts by providing important, clinically relevant information in a concise format. It is, primarily, an American publication edited by Daniel Laskin, a Professor and Chairman Emeritus in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Virginia, USA. A large number of clinicians have contributed to the text (including radiologists, OMFS surgeons, orthodontists, anaesthetists and pathologists).

The book is divided into 25 chapters which are systemically structured and the index enables quick access to topics. Topics cover elements of urgent management and clinical problem solving and include: laboratory tests, imaging, investigations, management of medically compromised patients, medical emergencies, post-operative complications, sedation, diagnosis and treatment of cysts/tumours/salivary gland disease and the management of maxillofacial trauma, infections, craniofacial abnormalities, TMJ disorders and oral mucosal lesions.

The book begins with an outstanding patient assessment chapter (clerking, history, examination). Chapters are laid out in easy-to-read paragraphs with subheadings, well supplemented with black and white diagrams and tables. However, the lack of any clinical photographs or colour can make the book appear quite heavy going initially.

Those working in hospital settings may find chapters explaining blood test results, electrolyte abnormalities and ECG interpretation invaluable. I found the chapter on nutrition for the post-operative patient useful as an understanding of enteral/parenteral feeding regimes are advantageous when working in a head and neck oncology setting. Two chapters in particular were excellently well written, namely, the 'Diagnosis and Treatment of Bisphosphonate-related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw' and 'Managing Complications of Dentoalveolar Surgery'.

American terminology and acronyms were quite hard work at times and care is needed to avoid confusion, especially in chapters such as classification of cysts. The reader would also need to remain aware of important differing algorithms between the USA and UK, eg BLS. I found the least useful information to be that regarding American hospital protocol, procedure and organisation; however, to an American reader this may be fairly interesting.

For a UK readership, this text is ultimately aimed at practising dual-qualified OMFS trainees. Many of the 'how-to' clinical techniques (eg chest drain insertion, arterial line insertion) would not be expected of, for example, a dentally-qualified OMFS SHO. This handy reference text, however, contains much easily accessible clinically significant information for a junior trainee within hospital settings and OMFS. I feel it would definitely serve to enhance the working knowledge base of a dentally qualified trainee working within OMFS.

A. Robbins