

Book reviews

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Laura Pacey,
Editorial Assistant,
British Dental Journal,
Nature Publishing Group,
4-6 Crinan Street,
London,
N1 9XW

MINERALIZED TISSUES IN ORAL AND CRANIOFACIAL SCIENCE: BIOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES AND CLINICAL CORRELATES



L. K. McCauley,
M. J. Somerman (eds)
UK: Wiley-Blackwell
price £93.99; pp 392
ISBN 9780470958339

This text, *Mineralized tissues in oral and craniofacial science*, published in 2012 is an excellent compilation of the rapidly changing concepts in the field of mineralisation with respect to oral and craniofacial science. While there are pathology textbooks that discuss mineralisation, there is no other book available to focus on biological principles and clinical correlates of mineralised tissues in oral and craniofacial region. This 392-page book is organised into three sections: bones of the oral-dental and craniofacial complex, teeth and bone in relation to teeth. Each of these sections was well organised. Section one, bones of the oral-dental and craniofacial complex, starts with a chapter dealing with embryological development, followed by cellular mechanism of bone formation, autosomal disorders and stem cell therapy for craniofacial bone regeneration. Similarly, the second section starts with tooth development, disorders of tooth formation and ends with regeneration strategies. Finally, section three deals with the bone and teeth interface. Biomechanics of teeth is well described in this section and is very interesting.

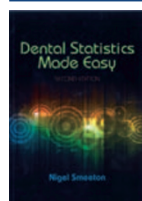
The authors have made laudable strides to make clinical correlates link with the preceding chapter's labora-

tory research and further keep the contents up to date and relevant to the modern curriculum by adding numerous references to papers published in the last two years. The publisher also offers purchasers downloadable photographs, which can be utilised for academic presentation purposes. More than 150 images are available online. In addition, the textbook is available in e-book format.

In summary, this book is commendable for the extent of its content and its ability to remain up to date. It serves the needs not only of first-year students, but also of various specialists in training and all practitioners looking for a rationale in their diagnosis and treatment.

S. Sunkara

DENTAL STATISTICS MADE EASY, 2ND EDITION



N. Smeeton
Radcliffe Publishing
price £24.99; pp 180
ISBN 9781846199738

The explosion of information available on the internet, combined with new dental products on the market and increasing interest from the general public, has led to greater discussions of treatment options with the modern day patient. A firm understanding of statistics allows clinicians to quickly assess the quality of evidence read on the internet and in papers. When one hears the word 'statistics', you may think of endless numbers, algebra and confusing formulae, however, this impressive textbook, written for dental students and practitioners, does not focus on number crunching. Instead it success-

fully discusses the theory behind the statistics and how this relates directly to modern day dental practice.

The layout of the text is simple, clear and easy to understand. The informal style used by the author allows the reader to quickly and concisely generate an excellent understanding of basic statistics. The key points are boxed within the sections to reinforce knowledge described in the text. Tables and graphs are kept to a minimum, with the author placing a greater emphasis on dental examples and their relationship with statistics. This makes the book much more relevant for practitioners and clearly shows the importance of statistics in dentistry. The chapters end with questions and answers (of varying difficulties!), perfect for undergraduates. The second edition fantastically updates the references to dental journals at the end of each chapter. These not only include statistical papers, but also references to 'locating subject-specific literature for dental research'.

The initial chapters guide the reader through the details of planning a study and how a study is generated. This follows perfectly on to the types of studies used in dentistry with particular emphasis on randomised control trials. This edition has greatly updated the later chapters, which concentrate on more statistical specifics such as confidence intervals, comparing two means, P-values, chi-squared test and many more. The core emphasis of statistics in dentistry rather than formulae and calculations ensures that the reader appreciates the relevance of the text to daily practice life.

In summary, this excellent text could be renamed 'dental statistics made easy,