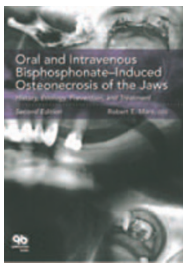


# Book reviews

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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## ORAL AND INTRAVENOUS BIPHOSPHONATE-INDUCED OSTEONECROSIS OF THE JAWS: HISTORY, ETIOLOGY, PREVENTION AND TREATMENT, 2ND EDITION



R. E. Marx  
UK: Quintessence  
price £48.00; pp 160  
ISBN 9780867155105

In 2003 reports started to surface of spontaneous areas of exposed bone of the jaws in groups of patients being treated with bisphosphonates. We now call this condition 'bisphosphonate-induced osteonecrosis of the jaws' or 'BIONJ' for short. Though it is less than ten years since the condition was first described and it is still relatively rare, there are a large number of patients at risk of suffering from this condition and we are seeing it present more regularly.

Authored by Robert Marx, this is a well-written and easy to read book that comprehensively covers BIONJ and similar conditions in a logical and fluid way. This book is concise at less than 150 pages and of a size that can be fitted into a small bag. It comprises seven chapters, the first two describing the history of the disease and how it first came to be recognised as the condition we see today and then relating it to the way in which bisphosphonates work.

The third and fourth chapters elaborate on the medical indications for bisphosphonates, as well as osteopetrosis – a rare inherited condition that through loss of osteoclastic function can cause similar symptoms to BIONJ.

The final three chapters provide detailed summaries of the current classification

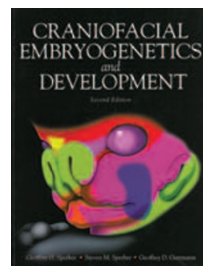
of BIONJ and how patients on both oral and intravenous bisphosphonates should be managed. There are a series of case reports that tie in with these summaries as well as detailed advice explaining the considerations behind the treatment that was offered.

From its title, one would have thought that this book was aimed at specialists in the field of oral and maxillofacial surgery but Marx has pitched its content with relevance to treatment across a variety of clinical settings – including general practice. In paperback form it is easy to pick up and read in short bursts and each chapter provides a comprehensive list of references for further reading. There are many excellent clinical photographs and diagrams to complement the text which further highlight how well the author wishes to bestow his experience on us.

All in all, Marx has written an informative and interesting book that is hard to put down. I strongly recommend this book for anyone practising dentistry who encounters patients on oral or intravenous bisphosphonates in any clinical setting.

R. J. Bate

## CRANIOFACIAL EMBRYOGENETICS AND DEVELOPMENT, 2ND EDITION



G. H. Sperber,  
S. M. Sperber,  
G. D. Guttman  
China: People's Medical  
Publishing House  
price \$55.95; pp 225  
ISBN 9781607950325

*Craniofacial embryogenetics and development* is a thoroughly interesting textbook which outlines the growth

of the human face, calvaria, jaws and teeth. This text has evolved from one which was released ~35 years ago by the lead author, under the title *Craniofacial embryology*. Professor Geoffrey H. Sperber is joined by his son Steven (a geneticist) in this most recent publication, and since embryology has its origins deeply embedded within our genetic makeup, they together apply new genetical concepts to previous understanding of embryology.

The book is divided into two major sections. The first quarter of the book concentrates on general embryology, including the formation of the pharyngeal arches externally, and the pharyngeal pouches internally. These concepts are essential to grasp in order to understand the specific development of the craniofacial region detailed later.

The second or main section deals specifically with the head and face regions. The chapters are structured anatomically, dealing with specific topographical regions individually, for example the salivary glands and 'tongue and tonsils'. There is a great level of detail concerning the facial skeleton, cranial base and palate, all of which are important in cleft patients.

Each chapter is thoughtfully structured, with a chronologic account of development of the specific foetal region *in utero*, illustrated throughout with relevant drawings, photographs, radiographs and scanning electron micrograph (SEM) images of human embryos and fetuses. Of particular interest at the end of each chapter is a section outlining common anomalies of development, which give rise to numerous conditions commonly encountered in the dental surgery, such as micrognathia, and those more relevant

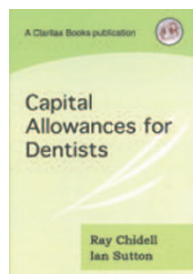
to medicine such as hypertelorism and craniosynostosis.

This textbook is a very interesting read from a dentist's perspective, with particular relevance in the field of orthodontics, where the growth of the facial skeleton is studied intimately and often modified during development. Such embryological study underpins the basis of cephalometric analysis and functional appliance therapy, for example. Surgeons would also find this text interesting, as they deal with malformations of the facial skeleton routinely.

Of relevance to the GDP is the chapter on odontogenesis – the development of the dentition, from ectoderm and mesenchyme right through to eruption and cessation of root development. Malfunctions in this process result in commonly encountered conditions such as hypodontia, ectodermal dysplasia and dentinogenesis imperfecta.

P. Kielty

## CAPITAL ALLOWANCES FOR DENTISTS



R. Chidell, I. Sutton  
UK: Claritax Books  
price £14.50; pp 50  
ISBN 9781908545077

Like it or lump it, tax is an area where all dentists could discover substantial savings for their businesses and improve understanding. This little book gives a contemporary overview of capital allowances, authored by stalwarts in the field, specifically aimed at those involved in running dental practices.

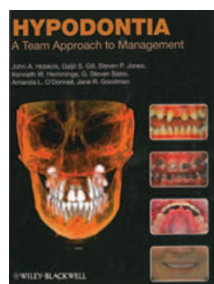
Ten short chapters convey simply and succinctly what is a complex and ever-changing subject. It is intended to be read in one hour, cover to cover. The format is well organised, and throughout are case-based examples directly applicable to dentistry. Chapters include advice on acquisitions and preparing to sell your property. These go some way to highlighting common pitfalls and misconceptions concerning capital allowances.

The book does not intend to make you an expert, but provides a basis and introduction to the topic. Enterprising dental practitioners, at any point in their career, could benefit from further insight into the world of other professional colleagues we rely upon, as well as the broader topic of tax itself.

I recommend this as a very readable text, which for some will give peace of mind, and for others will give necessary direction. By applying principles set out in the book, and obtaining the right professional advice, substantial financial benefits can be recognised, particularly in the background of future changes to tax rules and economic hardship.

R. A. Scott

## HYPODONTIA: A TEAM APPROACH TO MANAGEMENT



J. A. Hobkirk, D. S.  
Gill, S. P. Jones, K. W.  
Hemmings, G. S. Bassi,  
A. L. O'Donnell, J. R.  
Goodman  
UK: Wiley-Blackwell  
price £79.99; pp 199  
ISBN 9781405188593

This very informative, easy to read book has been written by members of the Eastman Dental Institute's Multidisciplinary Hypodontia Team. It compiles and incorporates a wealth of knowledge gained over 33 years of multidisciplinary hypodontia treatment at the Eastman.

The book is primarily aimed at those involved in the management of hypodontia within specialist practice or hospital dentistry. The level of detail is probably not necessary for those in general practice without a specific interest in the subject. However, the book explains concepts well and does not assume too much prior knowledge on the subject.

It brings together the latest information and best practice from orthodontics, restorative dentistry, paediatric dentistry and other specialties that form the basis for the successful treatment of hypodontia.

The book is sensibly arranged into three core sections. The first sets the scene, providing detailed and well-referenced background information into the condition. It

covers the aetiology and epidemiology, inheritance patterns, clinical features of hypodontia and advises on the framework for a team approach bringing together different specialities.

The second covers the key issues that must be considered when managing patients with a reduced number of teeth – these being issues of space within and between the dental arches, the occlusion and problems that may arise from the inadequacy of associated supporting tissues.

The final part builds well upon previous chapters and sets out logical strategies for the management of hypodontia at different stages of dental development. This area of the book as with others is exhaustive in its coverage of the subject and presents the information in an extremely authoritative manner with numerous clinical cases for examples. In fact throughout the book, excellent clinical photos support the text and represent clearly what the authors are describing.

In summary this new volume on the management of hypodontia provides those specialist dentists involved in the treatment of this condition with an authoritative and evidence-based text from which to refer. It is well structured and provides solutions to many problems without the reader having to scan excessive amounts of text.

A. McKay