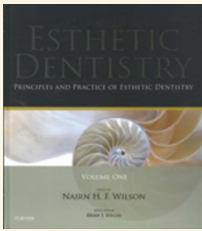


BOOK REVIEW



PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF ESTHETIC DENTISTRY
N. H. F. Wilson, B. J. Millar
Elsevier
price £61.99; pp 208
ISBN 9780723455585

Aesthetic dentistry is definitely on the rise but clinicians can underestimate its complexity and it can pose challenges for a lot of us. This book is for clinicians of all ages – newly qualified or experienced practitioners – and aims to address these concerns.

This first book in its series has contributions from various renowned clinicians. It draws upon the experience of not only practising dentists, but also specialists in periodontology and prosthodontics. Furthermore, a lot of the authors have great experience in education and teaching and this is reflected in the way the book is compiled together.

It consists of ten chapters and all follow a clear logical pattern – similar to a thought process most clinicians are used to. All chapters are also beautifully illustrated with relevant clinical photographs. Furthermore, all chapters include a concise 'key point summary' or a 'clinical tip' and this ties in very nicely with the text.

The first chapter deals with the context of aesthetic dentistry and explains how we are where we are today. It succinctly mentions topics such as 'the golden proportion' and 'Hollywood smiles'. The second chapter deals with ethical considerations and is written in a very easy-to-read format, drawing upon examples from the press and the medical profession and applying it to a dental context.

The following three chapters focus on treatment planning but with a strong emphasis towards aesthetic dentistry. They are littered with useful clinical tips that dentists can implement into their everyday practice.

Chapter six focuses on periodontology and its place in aesthetic dentistry – something that can easily be overlooked. It is extremely well illustrated with very useful pre-, intra- and post-operative photos.

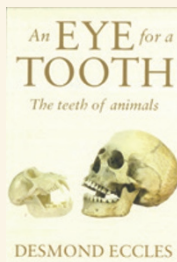
Chapters 7 and 8 focus on clinical techniques and covers topics like dental photography, shade taking, direct and indirect restorations. The text is very concise and reinforces our understanding of everyday dental procedures.

The penultimate chapter addresses the importance of communication with the technician and has some good examples of laboratory prescriptions. The last chapter is related to the maintenance of aesthetic dental work. It talks about how to manage failures and how to ensure your dentistry lasts.

In summary, this is a very easy to follow book that will no doubt teach the reader a few things about providing good aesthetic dentistry. I look forward to what the other volumes in this series have to offer.

F. Amin

BOOK REVIEW



AN EYE FOR A TOOTH
D. Eccles
Troubador Publishing
price £9.99; pp 61
ISBN 9781784621131

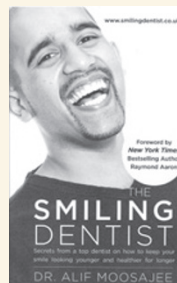
This is an insightful book which is a short, easy read for those interested in the evolutionary anatomy of animals' dentition. The book has been divided into different types of creatures and the eating habits of the various species extinct and present, describing the function and importance of their dentition. The book essentially aims to give a good outline of the history, evolution and continual evolving dentition of a number of animals.

The book is particularly interesting as it explains the importance of the teeth in the animal kingdom with respect to capturing their prey, ingestion of food, weapons of survival and protecting their young. It compares how this varies depending on the type of animal ie omnivores, carnivores and herbivores, their role in the environment, need for certain diets and survival.

The book is most definitely user friendly, using simple terminology for those with limited dental knowledge. I found this book to be a charming read which summarised the beauty, various shapes, size and design features of the animal dentition and chewing movements. Overall, after reading this book you gain an understanding of how adaptable the animal dentition has been with changes in time, environment, certain species diet and methods of chewing and it allows you to appreciate the dentition of all creatures.

J. Kanapathipillai

BOOK REVIEW



THE SMILING DENTIST
A. Moosajee
price £14.99, pp 112
ISBN 9781928155300

The smiling dentist is a well written self-help book for patients. It is aimed at bridging the gap in patient knowledge and demystifying the intricacies surrounding common dental ailments, and their management.

Written over 12 chapters, it is informative yet engaging and easy to read. The chapters are typically around five to ten pages long and follow a natural progression. The book eases the reader off initially with an explanation of common issues such as bleeding gums and toothache. It then progresses to explain more complex problems such as bad breath, managing pain and dental anxiety, and even gives an apt discussion of what is possible with cosmetic dentistry and smile design. It is needless to say that the topics are all thoroughly relevant, covering issues affecting most patients at one point or another in their lives.

The book also supplies an online link to the author's website (www.smilingdentist.co.uk) giving the reader access to further resources and bonus material. The tooth rescue poster is a notable example, which provides a straightforward explanation of what to do when a tooth gets knocked out, and is available for patients to print off.

Finally I would like to mention that all profits from the book are being donated to the dental charity, Bridge2Aid. This is a very worthy cause helping to fund a legacy of sustainable dental care in rural Africa, notably by training local clinical officers in basic dentistry and exodontia.

A. Rezvani