Books *beautiful* books

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TITLE: Dental instruments, a pocket guide, 4th edition

AUTHOR: L. R. Bartolomucci Boyd

PUBLISHER: Elsevier

PRICE: £27.99

ISBN: 9781437723854

I have encountered a few dental instrument guides since becoming a trainee dental nurse, and once qualified as an aid to training other staff. The format of this one (spiral-bound pages with a sturdy flap over the main volume) has proven to always be the most versatile format – and for some reason always the book that's to hand when you need it!

In the second edition there was little competition, and the guide was limited to a photograph and a description of the instrument in separate text. This was not instantly helpful to a new trainee dental nurse. Now, there are varieties of instruments within a family shown, important sections indicated, and separate pages to show how multiple parts of certain instruments, such as a disposable anaesthetic needle package, fit together to work as a whole.

As ever, groups of instruments are separated into chapters, but over the various

editions these have been refined, and thought has now been given to the area in the surgery where you may find the instrument groups, as well as the similar kind of tasks or process in which they would be used. I am even happy with the completeness of the hygiene instrument section, previously

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somewhat overlooked! Whereas the second edition focused on the mainstay dental practice basics, the third and now fourth edition have progressively introduced the broader range of equipment available and is thoroughly up-to-date, especially in the areas of radiography and anaesthetic delivery. Finally, tray setups have always been included in this book – which is great for saving

The best guide around

embarrassment to the trainee dental nurse, and something I wish I had had when I first started working.

In conclusion I have always found this guide to be the best around, and it develops in its completeness and assistance to the new dental nurse with every edition. In my opinion this is as important as a Levison's textbook for dental nurses for any new member of nursing staff.

*Mark Thurston,
Student Dental Hygienist/Therapist*

Mark Thurston

TITLE: Basic guide to orthodontic dental nursing

AUTHOR: F. Grist

PUBLISHER: Wiley-Blackwell

PRICE: £24.99

ISBN: 9781444333183

This is a meticulously detailed bible for all dental nurses and trainees who have any level of involvement with orthodontics.

The book covers all aspects of routine orthodontics, with each chapter detailing a different appliance, device or stage of treatment ranging from 'The First Appointment' to 'Retention and Retainers'.

For each different procedure covered there is a comprehensive list of what the nurse must prepare including tips on how to assist the clinician more effectively and what to expect at each stage.

Even a layperson could pick this book up

and know exactly what is required to be organised and efficient in assisting with any orthodontic procedure.

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The book goes on to address less conventional procedures such as aligners, mandibular advancement devices for sleep apnoea, a general insight into multi-disciplinary orthodontics and one chapter offers a profusion of photographs where one can find visual examples of each

instrument, material, ligature, band and wire that could possibly be needed when assisting in an orthodontic setting.

I would have liked to see some 'after' pictures of cleft patients, particularly for trainee nurses who may never have heard of cleft lip and palate, and for there to have been a more positive spin on the end results for cleft patients – but as this is an extensive subject to cover perhaps it could warrant a follow-up to look forward to from the author?

Some illustrations are a little dated and I found one in particular misleading but that does not remove from the fact that this is an invaluable addition to any dental nurse's library.

*Nicola Sherlock
Dental nurse*

A meticulously detailed bible.