enjoyed the chapter on team roles and responsibilities which highlighted the differences in personalities that any group or team in any working environment would experience. It enables you to look at the strengths and weaknesses of your colleagues. By understanding those strengths and weaknesses you will understand why you all get on or otherwise, as the case may be, and it enables you to analyse the best balance for your team, perhaps getting colleagues together who complement each other. My colleagues and I had great fun trying to work out who was a 'shaper', 'team worker', or 'plant' and if you have chance to read this book you will understand what I am talking about!

'I was not expecting to enjoy the book as much as I did but once I picked it up I could not put it down.'

The book goes on to cover practicalities such as patient consent, confidentiality and record keeping, regulations and keeping up-to-date with your CPD. I was not expecting to enjoy the book as much as I did but I can honestly say that once I picked it up I could not put it down. It is written in an understandable and straightforward manner, is an easy to read tool for any member of the team, and I do believe this book would be a vital addition to any dental practice.

*Claire Louise Doolan
Dental Nurse, Overleigh Orthodontics,
Chester*

Claire Louise Doolan

TITLE: Dental hygiene theory and practice, 3rd edition
AUTHOR: M. Leonardi Darby, M. M. Walsh
PUBLISHER: Elsevier
PRICE: £52.99
ISBN: 9781416053576

I was thrilled to be asked to review this book. When I was warned that it was 'rather enormous' it was no exaggeration! This substantial hard backed book is over 1,200 pages long and the authors have cleverly combined the expertise of 56 dental professionals to contribute to the comprehensive 62 chapters.

'The comprehensive coverage of dental hygiene care follows a logical progression.'

This beautifully presented and illustrated book is divided into eight sections and aims to provide practising and student dental hygienists with the latest evidence-based recommendations to guide decision making in their daily working practice. The clear layout enables the reader to easily access relevant information as required and as such could easily be used as a reference book. The reader is clearly guided through the chapters in the following way: the clinical competencies box at the beginning of each chapter provide a general overview and highlight the reader to the desired learning outcomes of the section; procedure boxes, often backed up with colour illustrations, contain detailed steps to guide the hygienist

through clinical competencies; client education tips and legal, ethical and safety issues ensure that the hygienist is up-to-date in these areas and encourage the reader to consider the wider aspects of oral health education, provision and prevention; critical thinking exercises and scenarios encourage important critical thinking skills, and the key concepts section summarises the important points contained within the chapter.

Dental hygiene theory and practice appears to be aimed at the American hygienist, and although some standards differ to ours in the UK, this does not affect the readability and value of this book in aiding the dental care professional to raise the standard of care that the patient receives.

The eight sections of the book are based on the human needs model and are focused on the prevention of oral disease and the promotion of oral health throughout the lifespan of the individual. The comprehensive coverage of dental hygiene care follows a logical progression, beginning with the foundation of dental hygiene and continuing with preparation for the appointment, assessments, dental hygiene diagnosis, care plan and evaluation, implementation, pain and anxiety control, special needs and finally practice management.

Access to the Evolve website provides competency-based evaluation forms, web resources, suggested readings and a glossary.

I would consider this book to be an invaluable addition to any dental practice. The 62 chapters cover all aspects of dental hygiene theory and practice and would be a useful reference tool for all members of the dental team due to the broad scope of information that is contained within this wonderful book.

*Nicola Gough RDH
Dental Hygienist
Director, cpd4dentalnurses.co.uk*

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