

understand at the start of treatment. The use of such information booklets, made available in waiting areas, could help patient understanding and perhaps improve co-operation. This book is

orientated towards the 'American' patient, particularly with reference to the timing of treatment and the justification of costs involved.

Amandeep Johal

3-D Interactive Visualisation of Inverse Anchorage Technique in Orthodontics (1995)

L. Carrière and J. Carrière

Distributor: Metrogamma SA, Gran Via Carlos III 8, Barcelona, Spain

Price: \$350.00

ISBN: 84-89463-00-X

This CD-ROM describes José Carrière's Inverse Anchorage Technique. It was tested under Microsoft Windows 95 on a Gateway 2000 desktop and a Toshiba portable computer, both of which had 133 MHz Pentium processors with 16 and 32 Mb of RAM respectively.

Installation

The CD-ROM does not install onto a computer's hard disk and does not use the Windows 95 Autorun feature to run up automatically on loading. This is a pity as the unwary may find it difficult to start the program as no instructions are given. The program requires the presence of Apple QuickTime to run the video elements of the presentations and a copy of this is available on the CD-ROM. Having hunted for a file named Setup or Install, success was finally achieved by running a file called 'Carrière'. Having said that, the installation was faultless for both computers, and both video and sound cards worked first time without problems. The program is robust and caused no interference with other software.

Interface

The presentation uses a proprietary interface which bears no resemblance to any Microsoft Windows product. The interface is very polished with elaborate fade ins and outs, stunning video sequences of moving teeth accompanied by orchestral music. Both English and Spanish audio tracks are available on the CD. The English translation is at times quaint with the use of such words as 'protocolised' and 'objecti-

vated'; this orthodontic technospeak sounds impressive but ultimately conveys little to the listener. The interface is moderately intuitive, and indeed has to be as there is no written help or prompts within the program; in time, however, the glossiness of the interface palls as it interferes with the more serious business of finding one's way around the CD and using it as an educational tool.

Content

The CD-ROM is divided into four main sections which deal with Concept, Description, Materials and Treatments. The Concept section contains a short biography of José Carrière, a description of the Carrière method and the highly impressive Carrière Clinic. The Description section covers the fundamentals of treatment, the inverse anchorage equation and the stages of treatment. As its name implies, the inverse anchorage technique would appear to defy conventional orthodontic logic by putting a priority on starting treatment in the maxilla first in extraction cases. The Materials section covers bands, brackets, archwires and traction elements. The final section consists of seven example treatments covering the spectrum of malocclusions to demonstrate how the inverse anchorage technique is used.

There is no search or index facility and since the program depends on hierarchical menus, navigation is slow and it is difficult to know where one is, where one is going or where one has been in the program.

Summary

This CD-ROM will almost certainly be required study for adherents of the inverse anchorage technique. However, the fussy interface, specialized content, the lack of real knowledge imparted and the lack of a search or index facil-

ity seriously limits this CD's usefulness as an educational tool. A brave attempt but not recommended for individuals or libraries unless they have a particular interest in the technique.

David Birnie

Community Oral Health (1997)

Cynthia M. Pine (Ed.)

Publisher: Wright, Oxford, UK

Price: £25.00

ISBN: 0-7236-1095-9

Community oral health draws together a wide range of academic disciplines. It is grounded in the principles and philosophy of the primary health care approach and seeks to improve the oral health of communities through organized, diverse and complex interventions. These may operate at the level of society, or be targeted at specific groups of individuals. The scope and range of this text reflects this underlying complexity.

The opening three chapters outline the theoretical perspectives adopted by most of those working within public health. The role of society in creating and maintaining 'health' and 'ill health' is outlined, together with the key features of the primary health care approach. There follow two chapters on health needs assessment including epidemiological surveys. This is followed by a long chapter which addresses the public health aspects of oral diseases and disorders, including dental caries, periodontal disease and dentofacial irregularities.

Other aspects that are covered in the remaining chapters are trends in oral health; strategies for improving the oral health of communities (including oral health promotion, fluoridation, community-based approaches, service planning); statistics; health economics.

The contributors are well-known and respected in the field. The various chapters have clearly been beautifully edited to give the reader the impression of a seamless text which mirrors in outline the practice of dental public health in communities: commencing from a philosophical foundation, through needs assessment and on to service planning and development.

This is an essential text for postgraduate students of dental public health, though the cost and depth of analysis may mean that it is beyond the scope of undergraduate teaching. I would strongly recommend this book to all dental libraries.

J. T. Newton