

Book Reviews

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Maxillofacial imaging (2006)

Authors: T.A. Larheim and P.-L. Westesson
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The aim of this book is to fill the gap between imaging in dentistry and medicine, showing how advanced imaging modalities, such as computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, and positron emission tomography, can be applied to maxillofacial imaging. Acknowledging that most of us prefer to see the actual images rather than read extensive texts, the authors have, with great success, produced an atlas-like book, built around high-quality images necessary for differential diagnosis of relevant conditions. The actual text is condensed and presented in a bulleted format, making it refreshingly easy for the readers to orientate themselves.

The 440 pages are in well-designed hard cover and present 425 figures consisting of about 1450 single illustrations. The first chapter, which provides a comprehensive and very useful presentation of the normal imaging anatomy of the maxillofacial structures, is followed by four chapters on imaging of conditions affecting the maxilla and the mandible.

The remaining nine chapters cover radiographic examination of the heterogeneous group of patients presenting with temporomandibular disorders, dental implants, facial traumas and fractures, facial growth disturbances, paranasal sinuses, maxillofacial soft tissues, salivary glands, adjacent structures such as neck and orbit, and finally the evolving field of interventional radiology. Each chapter is divided into a brief general introduction, presentation of each condition according to definition and clinical as well as imaging features, relevant high quality illustrations, and a suggested reading list.

In addition to being a useful reference for any clinician, this comprehensive description of radiographic imaging may serve as a foundation for building a formal curriculum in maxillofacial radiology.

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