

FEATURES SECTION

Book Reviews

Paediatric Dentistry: A Clinical Approach

Editors: G. Koch, S. Poulsen
Munksgaard, Copenhagen, 2001
ISBN 8716122712
4–82 pp., £75.00, (hb)

This book aims to give a comprehensive review of paediatric dentistry and its scientific basis. It is intended as a basis for undergraduate study, and as a reference for interested postgraduates and practitioners. There are useful reviews of oral health in children drawn from Scandinavian studies and caries, periodontal disease, developmental disturbances, erosion, malocclusions, craniofacial disorders, oral mucosal diseases and dental trauma are covered, emphasizing the wide range of oral conditions that affect children. There is comprehensive coverage of mental development in children including the implications for oral care and behaviour management techniques. History and examination is well covered, as are radiographic techniques and diagnosis. The readers will find the summary of caries prevention to be very clear and useful details of caries activity tests are summarized. There is an excellent chapter on pain control and sedation, and both theoretical and practical aspects are clearly explained. The management of carious lesions is explained both in terms of interceptive as well as restorative techniques and endodontics options are dealt with separately for primary and young permanent teeth. Good examples of gingival and periodontal conditions are clearly illustrated with excellent colour photographs and radiographs. Developmental disturbances of teeth are again very clearly illustrated and they are related to the mechanisms of a normal tooth development. The development of occlusion, and the principals of interceptive orthodontics are also covered in a concise and readable manner, and the paediatric dentist's approach to orthodontics problems is illustrated with some nice clinical examples. Readers will find the coverage of traumatic injuries to be very clear, both in terms of examination and immediate care, as well as longer term issues. A useful section on oral mucosal lesions and basic oral surgery is also well illustrated. The implications of chronic health conditions for oral health is especially welcome, as it is an increasingly

important area in paediatric dentistry. The dental care of the disabled child is also covered both in terms of prevention and the principals of treatment. There is also a useful section on the role of the dental team in paediatric dentistry.

The text is very well laid out and is very readable, with good use of tables, line diagrams, and clinical photographs, many in colour. Readers with a particular interest in a topic will find the suggested reading lists at the end of each chapter to be very useful. The editors have succeeded in bringing together a very wide range of material with chapters being contributed by acknowledged experts in their fields. It is a very welcome addition to the present range of textbooks on paediatric dentistry, and will be of great interest to undergraduates, postgraduates, and interested practitioners. It will serve as a very useful source of information for all practitioners with an interest in the dental care of children.

Martin Kinirons

Contemporary Fixed Prosthodontics, 3rd Edition

Stephen F Rosenstiel, Martin F Land, Junhei Fujimoto
Mosby Inc, 2001
880 pages, Hardback, Price: \$92.00, ISBN: 081515559X

This 868 paged, 2800 black and white illustrated, A4 sized textbook, edited by the above authors with contributions from 15 experts, has hit the bookshop and library some 6 years after the 2nd Edition and 13 years after the 1st. The 3rd Edition seeks to “maintain the comprehensive nature of the provided information, while subtly restructuring content so both novice and experienced practitioners can take full advantage with minimal digression to related but less than critical information”. With its 4 sections (Planning and Preparation; Clinical Procedures Part 1; Laboratory Procedures and Clinical Procedures Part 2) and 32 separate chapters I believe the authors manage to do this. They provide, to good effect, food for thought that readers of varying clinical and academic experience could utilise effectively.

Every chapter contains a glossary, an updated list of references and a number of study questions which can be

used by the reader to test their understanding of the subject matter.

As a restorative dentist I find the text provides a good logical portrayal of restorative and laboratory procedures. It gives sound clinical advice and concepts to treatment. The literature is used correctly to substantiate and highlight points made. However, it is debatable whether this one text can substitute for many of the existing volumes on restorative dentistry. The authors do provide the bookshelf with a complimentary text which can act as a good source for reference.

To the orthodontist the book will have less value but at least the basic principles and grounding for restorative dentistry can be referenced easily from one, as opposed to many, texts. For that reason alone the text may prove a useful addition to any orthodontist's bookshelf.

Interestingly, I found 6 direct references to the value of orthodontic therapy and orthodontic opinion in the quest to achieve excellence in restorative dentistry!

R McAndrew