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BOOK REVIEW

**A Clinical Guide to Complete Denture Prosthetics.** By J.F. McCord and A.A. Grant. BDJ Books, London, 2000 (76pp., £29.95). ISBN 0-904588-64-5.

This is a new addition to the 'clinical guide series' published by the British Dental Journal. The majority of the material has already formed a series of published articles in the Journal and, as is customary following publication, a stand-alone book has been released.

On first impressions the book is attractive. It is in A4 format and the material is well illustrated. The introductory chapter sets the scene and this is important for, as the authors stress in the second paragraph, "This book is not intended to replace standard textbooks of prosthodontics, but rather to serve as a chairside guide/aide memoir of clinical procedures for the general dental practitioner with an interest in complete denture therapy." This statement should be borne in mind as the reader progresses through the book.

To start, this is a useful book for the interested postgraduate practitioner as it acts as complementary material to those who are reading around the subject. It does demand a good understanding of the basics of complete denture prosthetics as some of the concepts are at an advanced level. Examples include the use of a papillameter and the re-introduction of the Gothic Arch tracing technique. The authors do cover a variety of techniques as they advance through the progression of complete denture construction. The chapters follow a traditional approach with each covering in turn: the history and examination, impressions, registration, trial dentures and

delivery of complete dentures. The information is sound and practical and will help the more able dentist interested in Prosthetics to explore alternative methods of treating the edentulous patient. The last chapter covers specific clinical problem areas and is a real gem! There are practical tips on conventional immediate complete dentures, copy (template) dentures, relines and rebases, overdentures and implant-retained complete dentures. This last chapter could form the basis for a new series of articles.

Although overall the book is well written, there is some unevenness in the style that detracts overall. For example, Chapter 3 is strong on text with some pictures but little in the way of aide memoir tables. This is different from Chapter 10 which is predominantly a set of tables with little text and pictures.

In spite of these niggles, it must be stressed that the authors ought to be congratulated for breathing new life into a difficult subject area that has been covered before. I would recommend practitioners to buy the book in order to allow a fresh approach and different perspective.

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BOOK REVIEW

**Treatment Planning for Traumatized Teeth.** By Mitsuhiro Tsukiboshi. Quintessence Publishing Co. Ltd., 2000 (120pp., £48). ISBN 0-86715-374-1.

This book was a delight to review. I read it from cover to cover in a weekend. It reminded me of reading a good novel; I did not want to put it down. The author is Japanese and the contents of the book are heavily influenced by the publications and

research of Dr Jens O Andreasen. *Treatment Planning for Traumatized Teeth* is true to its title. The book consists of 11 short chapters. These cover anatomical considerations, classification of injuries, examination, crown fractures, root fractures, subluxation, extrusion, intrusion, luxation and avulsion. Trauma to the supporting structures and to the primary dentition are also included. True to the Quintessence Publishing Co. format, the book is very well produced with their use of high quality, coloured photographs, exceptionally good black and white prints of radiographs and colourful diagrammatic representations.

The layout of the book with its mix of pictures and text is very pleasing to the eye and easy to read. However, some small quirks in translation and editing into the English version have meant that, in a couple of places, it is difficult to understand and this could confuse someone who is not familiar with the basic management of traumatized teeth. The tooth notation system used is one with which I am not familiar. Nevertheless, the cases used by the author to illustrate the injuries and their management show clinical expertise of the highest order, despite the fact that surgical intervention has been favoured in some instances when a more conservative approach may have been indicated. One interesting observation is that the traumatized teeth of Japanese children appear to require bleaching more often than those of British children.

This is a well produced book giving concise information and recommendations on the management of traumatized teeth. It will be a useful addition to the books on my shelf.

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