

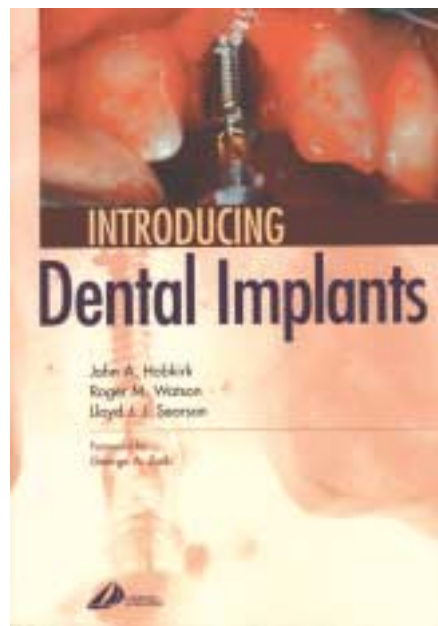
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BOOK REVIEW

Introducing Dental Implants. By John A. Hobkirk, Roger M. Watson, Lloyd J.J. Searson. Churchill Livingstone, Oxford 2003(184pp., £31.23 [Amazon]). ISBN 0 443 07185 3.

There is one sentence in the foreword of this book, written by Professor George Zarb, that distils all of the qualities that this publication contains far more eloquently than I could profess to do so in this review. 'This is the first text that I have been privileged to read which addresses the topic in a manner so comprehensive, and yet so superbly organized, that it may very well qualify not only as the finest book for the novice in the field, but also as a landmark publication.'

The text consists of 10 chapters and covers all aspects of implant dentistry including decision-making, treatment planning and both the surgical and prosthodontic aspects in the management of the edentulous, partially dentate and single unit case. There is also a chapter introducing alternative applications of the osseointegration concept dealing with



extra-oral prostheses, orthodontic anchorage and the use of implants in the rehabilitation of the oral cancer patient.

All aspects of patient management are covered in detail, the focus being on proactive rather than reactive management. The importance of planning is emphasized and reinforced for different clinical situations.

Methods of radiographic investigation, implant distribution, material consideration and occlusal factors are all covered, as is the important post treatment maintenance of the restoration.

A further chapter is devoted to problems that may arise as a consequence of poor planning and surgical deficiencies resulting in biological and biomechanical failure.

Throughout, the book is incredibly well organized, breaking down information into a series of headings and bullet points. This information is also summarized in table form. The text is comprehensive, supported by a wealth of clinical images and schematic illustrations covering all aspects of implant dentistry. The authors have aimed this book at final year dental students, dentists taking postgraduate courses and professionals complementary to dentistry. In laying the book out in discrete chapters in an easy to read style, I think that it will find an enthusiastic audience.

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