

The only criticism of this book is that it does not include references to peer reviewed papers. This will make it less appealing to a small proportion of its intended audience but as a quick reference handbook it is understandable why the authors have made this decision.

This is an excellent book, which covers the subject exceptionally well. Its concise nature and well planned structure make it one of the most accessible books in its field. This is a must have book for any dental or medical professional.

A. Jenkinson

ADVANCED OPERATIVE DENTISTRY: A PRACTICAL APPROACH



D. Ricketts, D. W. Bartlett (eds)
Churchill Livingstone
price £39.99; pp 276
ISBN 9780702031267

This textbook provides the reader with an interesting and practical overview of all aspects of fixed prosthodontic therapy including crown and bridge provision as well as veneers, inlays and onlays. Written by a team of British specialists, this textbook will undoubtedly serve as a solid resource for undergraduate studies, those taking postgraduate examinations and practitioners wishing to update their knowledge of this field.

The first part of the textbook guides the reader through the main dental disease elements that may impact upon the provision of fixed prosthodontics. Thus, there are chapters dealing with dental caries, periodontal disease, pulpal pathology and tooth wear. The aetiology, management and prevention of these conditions are covered but also their very direct relevance to successful fixed prosthodontics.

This is then followed by chapters dealing with occlusion, cores, posts and aesthetic problems. The latter chapter is particularly useful because it explores the other options for dealing with appearance problems, for example bleaching and directly-placed composites.

There then follows chapters on gold crowns, metal-ceramic crowns,

all-ceramic crowns, inlays, onlays and veneers. Step-by-step preparation guidelines are illustrated whilst the materials' characteristics and cementation are described. I especially liked the chapter covering all-ceramic restorations because it summarises quite succinctly the developments in this rapidly expanding science. Following this, there are chapters covering impression-making, provisional restorations and restoration aesthetics. Common pitfalls are outlined and sensible approaches illustrated. The final part of the textbook deals with the variety of options available to restore edentulous spaces and describes in detail the provision of both minimum-preparation and conventional bridgework.

There is only one main issue with this book and that is that there is no coverage of non-gold alloy, all-metal crowns and their respective benefits and drawbacks. This is particularly relevant today due to the high costs of gold-based alloys. In summary, this is a well written and lavishly illustrated text that definitely succeeds in providing a contemporary and practical approach to this most exacting aspect of clinical practice. I expect that this book will find its place as one of the core texts for students of dentistry.

A. Gow

PROSTHODONTICS AT A GLANCE



I. Ahmad
Wiley-Blackwell
price £25.99; pp 126
ISBN 9781405176910

Prosthodontics at a glance is the latest in the 'at a glance' series to grace our bookshelves. It is a reader-friendly publication comprising of 126 richly illustrated pages. The layout of the book follows the familiar easy-to-use format of the other texts in the 'at a glance' series. The authors' objective was to provide a platform for further reading on prosthodontics.

This book, split into 17 chapters, aims to take the reader on a journey from Black's cavity classification through to the placement and restoration of

implants. Each chapter and subchapter has text on the right hand side with excellent illustrations or photographs on the left hand side. The two page spread includes a box of key points that provide the reader with some of the most important clinical tips. This book is strengthened with the numerous colourful and highly detailed pictures and clinical photographs.

Chapters initially concentrate on the treatment planning stage before progressing through occlusion and onto extracoronary restorations. Sections on impression techniques and veneers include excellent step by step clinical photographs that aim to give the reader a clear understanding of the clinical procedures. As with most modern dental textbooks, a large section on aesthetics is included. This section covers the theories behind aesthetics and guidelines on how to achieve aesthetic restorations.

The increasing number of patients maintaining their teeth throughout life is reflected in the space dedicated to removable prostheses. The single two page spread allocated to denture construction would be inadequate for a thorough understanding in the construction of dentures. However, the section on implants would be more than sufficient for any undergraduate.

To summarise, this is a beautifully presented reader-friendly book. It is a very easy read from start to finish. I have no hesitation in recommending this book to any clinician who seeks a reference guide or an aide-mémoire. It may, however, not be the core textbook for an undergraduate starting out on the steep learning curve of prosthodontics.

S. McKernon