

to produce a bioactive surface on titanium alloys by chemical surface modification rather than applying a bioceramic layer to the surface by one of the more-established complex routes. Their process involves soaking the alloys in aqueous solutions of sodium or potassium hydroxide and then heat treating them at 600°C. When such a surface is exposed to simulated

body fluids, not unlike plasma, it produces a thin, bone-like apatite layer.

This book reports the very latest results from laboratories around the world, and one contemplating getting involved in this field of endeavour should certainly familiarize themselves with its contents.

David Brown

### Impacted Teeth (1993)

Editors: C. C. Alling, J. F. Helfrick, R. D. Alling

Publisher: W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia

Price: £71.00, ISBN: 0-7216-2968-7

Dentists daily face many decisions regarding impacted teeth and this book presents detailed information on the aetiology, diagnosis and management of impacted teeth. This textbook was written for patients' dental health advisors and provides a well-illustrated modern surgical text.

The 33 authors are mainly maxillofacial surgeons but four authors are active in the fields of oral pathology, orthodontics and periodontology. All authors but four are from the USA. The 23 chapters cover a broad range of subjects, including anaesthesia and sedation, diagnosis (including radiography) and surgical techniques. Each chapter covers a specific topic, such as impacted teeth, third molars, odontomas, transplantation of teeth, impacted teeth in fractures and clefts. Four chapters deal with

surgical side-effects, dry socket, infections, general complications and neurological complications. The book is easy to read.

The illustrations are generally of high quality. The drawings illustrating surgical techniques are good and also understandable to an orthodontist. The references to some of the chapters are not quite up to date with, for example, only one from 1990 among 60 references in two chapters. The latest reference (out of 17) in the chapter on third molars (60 pages) is from 1982. The index is extensive, very detailed and most useful. For example, canine(s) has 34 sub-headings and legal issues 16.

This book would be most valuable to oral surgeons and as a reference for dentists managing impacted teeth.

Jüri Kurol

### Co-Plot—Graphics Software 3.0 (1995)

Publisher: CoHort Software, PO Box 19272, Minneapolis, MN55419

The machine used for the review was a Viglen Genie DX33 with 16 MB of RAM, 400 MB hard disk and a Hewlett Packard Deskjet 550C printer. Co-Plot is a DOS program but will run quite nicely in a DOS window under Microsoft Windows. It can be used either with or without a mouse, and with a number of digitizers, but I did not test this.

The installation instructions were very clear and there were no problems in installing it as a stand-alone DOS application and running it in a DOS window. The documentation on installa-

tion problems appeared very good, but I did not need to use it as the program was very well behaved.

The program is designed to work with its companion programs CoStat and CoDraw. It does, however, accept data input from other programs. I used Co-Plot with data from dBASE III, Stat Graphics, SPSS for Windows, Paradox, Microsoft Excel. For some, it was possible to import them in their native program format, others by creating d-BASE or ASCII files. The only limitation on data file