

(including the psychology of adolescence) together with root resorption chapters and medical problems in adults (such as osteoporosis and diabetes), were excellent. Few orthodontic texts give these subjects the coverage they deserve; here, up-to-date information is provided, which is likely to become increasingly valuable as more patients with complex problems come forward and as our armamentarium increases, for example, with the advance of implants.

Other aspects of the book could leave one debating the pros and cons for some time. Personally, I would have expected to see more detail on the tooth movements often undertaken in orthognathic cases, rather than relatively

greater detail on the surgical aspects; also there seemed a surprising amount of detail on the use of Fränkel appliances and chin cups for the correction of Class III malocclusions, bearing in mind their questionable value, but I suppose one could argue that these should be included for completeness.

Overall, I would certainly recommend this text as good reference material. Had it covered some of the basics more fundamentally and updated some aspects more comprehensively, it would be a 'must' but for me, personally, it just missed being as good as it could have been.

F. Luther

Dental Education in Europe

Editor: Diarmuid B. Shanley

Publisher: Dental Press Kft., Budapest, Hungary

Price: €35

ISBN: 963-00-5305-5

This small softbound book is a report of the DentEd Thematic Network Project, which seeks to promote convergence of standards of dental education in Europe. The project was funded by the EU and there were valuable links with the American Dental Education Association. The book has been circulated to all dental and stomatological institutes in Europe. Additional copies are available from the School of Dental Science, Trinity College, Dublin 2, Ireland.

I expect that many readers will approach this book with an element of prejudice. Those who favour organization, rules, commonality in education, and a 'United States of Europe' will rush into it with pleasurable anticipation, especially if the book falls open at page 164 headed 'Towards Globalization—the next step!' Other more liberal Euro-sceptics, who argue that free thinking and expression of ideas is what makes dentistry a university subject, will groan at the prospect of yet more unenforceable edicts and rules. The Editor of this Journal knows to which category I belong and I know he smiled

when he sent me the book. For myself, I smiled too, because it arrived on the day the Irish people rejected the Nice proposals.

But wait a minute. The investigation revealed 'unacceptable treatment modalities that cause unnecessary trauma and pain', 'injudicious interventions ... which may be life-threatening', and 'failure to recognise the early oral signs of serious systemic diseases such as cancer'. These are serious matters, which should give concern to all clinicians no matter what their nationality or political affiliations. Having said that, the authors admit that convergence of undergraduate programmes to the extent that students are equipped to work in any European country is unattainable on account of variations in funding, staffing, equipment, and language difficulties.

The book is very well laid out with clear headings and short chapters. There were over 200 participants sourced from various bodies such as the Association for Dental Education in Europe and the Erasmus exchange programme. Some were self-appointed. Communication was

largely through E-mail and an interactive web site, www.dented.org. Thirty schools initially completed self-assessment forms. These were analysed by all participants and the schools subsequently visited by teams of five visitors. There were over 100 visitors from 29 different countries. The findings are presented in 19 chapters, which span the full range of dental school activities.

Orthodontics and Paediatric Dentistry share a chapter and the organizational relationship of the disciplines is discussed without coming up with anything better than Jack Tulley's idea that they should be married, but sleeping in twin beds. The recommendations for orthodontics exclude a laboratory skills course, but emphasize abilities in recognizing good and poor technical work and fitting and adjusting removable appliances. Students should meet their patients

early in the course and should follow them throughout. The emphasis should be on recognizing normal and aberrant growth, and occlusal management and referral. There is an excellent chapter on academic assessment methods, and others on quality assurance, research, dissemination (and the net), and stomatology and odontology.

All academics in Europe must be aware of the contents of this book without necessarily rushing to implement the proposals at this stage. It is clearly stated that the opinions should not be taken as an authoritative statement of the views of the European Union ... yet.

The authors and contributors score alpha for persistence and presentation, but the pi is in the sky. And that is what makes us sceptics so sceptical.

Andrew Richardson

Paediatric Dentistry, 2nd edition (2001)

Editor: Richard R. Welbury

Publisher: Oxford University Press, Oxford

Price: £35

ISBN: 0-19-263186-1

This 412-page well-indexed book gives an excellent overview of paediatric dentistry for the non-specialist. The clear format leads the reader through the subject matter in a logical order. The text begins with an introduction to craniofacial growth and development. Despite the fact that the text is aimed at the undergraduate reader, I felt this chapter was somewhat simplistic with the topic being covered in 13 pages. The following excellent chapter discusses child psychology/development and relates this to the child/dentist relationship throughout the childhood period. It takes the reader through an interesting tour of the psyche of the developing child. Chapter 3 introduces the differences between history-taking and treatment planning for the child patient. The next two chapters discuss methods of pain management giving practical advice on choices and techniques when treating the child patient.

Chapters 6–9 cover the epidemiology, prevalence, prevention, and treatment of dental caries. These chapters are clear, well illustrated and give practical advice on clinical techniques. Advanced restorative techniques are outlined in Chapter 10. This makes good use of summary tables for different treatment options.

The later chapters in the book are devoted to the more specialist areas within paediatric dentistry, starting with Chapter 11, which discusses specific periodontal problems in childhood. It gives a good overview of these problems, although I would take issue over the sweeping statement regarding complications of orthodontic treatment, for example that 'gingival recession is a common complication of orthodontic treatment' and the illustrated example of root resorption.

The following three chapters are of particular interest to the orthodontist. Chapter 12 covers

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