

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

dental trauma with a good general overview of what is an extensive topic. Dental anomalies are discussed in the next chapter and this is followed by an account of the paedodontic/orthodontic interface. These two chapters follow on well from each other, as much of the orthodontic discussion focuses on treatment in the mixed dentition and dental anomalies. The importance of assessment including the use of IOTN (Index of Orthodontic Treatment Need) is introduced, but as is to be expected in a general paediatric dentistry text, the coverage is too brief to be comprehensive. Having said this, there is a good account of interceptive orthodontics, an area that is important for the intended reader to understand. There is also a more balanced view of the complications of orthodontic treatment.

Chapter 15 discusses oral pathology/surgery in the child patient and the book finishes with two chapters on the specific problems that can be encountered when undertaking the treatment of children with specific disabilities and medical conditions.

The general lay-out of the book is excellent. A detailed contents page precedes each chapter and there is an informative reference list at the end that gives the reader not only the reference, but also a brief sentence detailing the content

of the indicated reference. The text is divided sensibly within each chapter, and there is good use of tables and bullet lists, all of which help to keep the reader's interest. It has good colour illustrations and practical advice on many of the subjects. The book makes use of highlighted 'key-points' within the text, but whilst these are utilized well in some areas, in others they act as a distraction. Each chapter finishes with a summary; again, these are better in some chapters than others, often being too brief to be useful.

Overall this is a clear, well laid out text; however, much of the information is of a general nature, which is to be expected in a book of this type. The aim is to give an overview of the subject and readers are directed to other relevant texts and references at the appropriate areas.

The book is principally aimed at the undergraduate student and, in this light, both in content and pricing fulfils its role well. Although not aimed at the orthodontic reader it provides a good overview and revision with many of the topics being common to both specialities. I would recommend it to anyone wanting an overview of the subject.

Nikki Attack

Dentistry for the Child and Adolescent, 7th edition (2000)

Authors: Ralph E. McDonald and David R. Avery

Publisher: Mosby Inc., St Louis

Price: £51.95

ISBN: 0-8151-9017-4

This hardback publication comprises 30 chapters with 610 black and white illustrations on 848 pages. It is an expanded and thorough revision with updated guidelines of the six previous editions, which have been in print since 1969. The book is designed for undergraduate, as well as post-doctoral dental students, and provides easy access to information enabling its readers to provide care for patients. At the same time, this thoroughly indexed textbook manages to serve

as an initial reference for further postgraduate studies of the subject.

The 35 American contributors cover a wide range of aspects in paediatric dentistry: from genetics to dental materials and from tumours of the oral soft tissues to treatment of deep caries. There are chapters focusing on 'Dental Problems of Children with Disabilities' and 'Management of the Medically Compromised Patient: haematology, oncology, hepatitis and

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