

Book Reviews

Systemized Orthodontic Treatment Mechanics (2001)

Authors: R. P. McLaughlin, J. C. Bennett and H. J. Trevisi

Publisher: Harcourt Publishing Ltd, London, UK

Price: £115.00

ISBN: 0272343171X

This luxurious edition represents a comprehensive and updated guide for clinicians who follow the McLaughlin and Bennett 'discipline'. In the 11 chapters included in the book, the authors provide a systematic approach to applying the fundamentals of their technique in all treatment stages. In essence, this is a composite of a number of technical principles already present in a variety of treatment philosophies, which have been brought together and modified accordingly to fit the basic concept of the authors concerning the proper sequence of mechanics.

Chapters 1 and 2 discuss fundamentals in appliance history, prescription, and associated treatment effects. In doing so, the authors often over-simplify various treatment stages, as in devoting one whole page and four coloured plates to show means available for stainless steel and elastomeric archwire ligation (Chapter 1), or use of bondable tubes (Chapter 2). Bracket positioning, and implications of direct and indirect bonding in this stage is analysed in Chapter 3, before going to Chapter 4 where the fundamentals of arch form concept, types, and preservation or modification (some could say violation!) are shown. One could criticize the thin literature provided in this chapter, although there is a clear tendency for inclusion of minimum text and lavishly illustrated intra-oral photographs throughout the book. Moreover, the authors have omitted classical references in the field and misquoted the results of Sandstrom *et al.*, who found that mandibular inter-canine width increase is not consistently associated with rapid palatal expansion. The important issue of anchorage control is analysed in Chapter 5 and all means available to control retraction of teeth are effectively illustrated. It seems that in their effort to over-zealously emphasize the efficiency

of their well-presented technique, the authors provide examples of lack of control during the 'early years', which represent classical paradigms of careless mechanics, such as the case of retracting indiscriminately with elastomeric chains on a small-diameter, round and of unknown alloy composition wire. Also, the suggestion to quench all non-stainless steel heat-treated archwires in water following exposure to an open flame or a spark (!) should not be applied, since it makes the archwires prone to fracture; TMA wires do not require such a remedy to be deformed.

The cases provided are generally well finished, with the exception of that shown in Figure 5.66, where the maxillary right canine eminence is too pronounced and the maxillary premolar marginal ridges are consistently below those of molars. The latter sign seems to be a 'systematic' problem as it is evident in many cases illustrated in the following chapters (Figures 5.114, 6.56, 6.104, 7.78, 7.114, 7.138, 7.156, and 7.198 among others).

Chapters 7 and 8 discuss treatment sequence and the suggested scheme of mechanics for Class II and III therapy, whilst sliding mechanics and space closure details are analysed in Chapter 9. Again, references focus on clinical aspects of sliding mechanics with the body of the standard literature on friction being absent. Chapter 10 is dedicated to finishing details and the proposed method of assessment of the final result, whilst following is a discussion of debonding and retention protocols with coloured photographs of debonding tools, as well as appropriate construction of permanent retainers in the anterior segments of the arches.

The textbook is a very helpful tool for clinicians who struggle with obsolete treatment mechanics and experience many difficulties in anchorage control and finishing orthodontic therapies. Most

importantly, the content of the first chapters serves as ideal material for orthodontic graduate students because of the clarification of tip and

torque control, along with the emphasis placed on the limitations of orthodontic appliances.

Theodore Eliades

Autotransplantation of teeth (2001)

Editor: Mitsuhiro Tsukiboshi

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Price: £92.00

ISBN: 0-86715-395-4

Autotransplantation has previously been viewed with uncertainty because of a lack of information on the topic and poor clinical results of reported cases. These poor results were due to a lack of understanding of the biological principles involved and poor clinical technique. Another barrier to the acceptance of the technique has been the misconception that autotransplantation can only be successful when immature, developing teeth are transplanted. However, as this superb book amply demonstrates, autotransplantation is for teeth with mature fully formed roots, as well as those with immature roots. The important difference to appreciate is the post-operative endodontic care of these two categories. Success of autotransplantation should therefore be viewed in terms of tooth survival, with or without a root

filling. This book repeatedly demonstrates how successful the technique can be.

The quality of the diagrams, photographs, and illustrations in the book are exceptional. The painstaking attention to detail when collecting clinical information on each case throughout treatment and follow-up is obvious. The text is easy to read and each clinical stage and each clinical application of autotransplantation is clearly described. The reference list is comprehensive.

I can commend this book highly to every generalist and specialist because there are indications for autotransplantation at all ages. Teeth that would otherwise have been extracted or left within the bone can be used to make natural functioning units.

Richard R. Welbury

Handbook of Third Molar Surgery (2001)

Author: George Dimitroulis

Publisher: Butterworth Heinemann, Oxford, UK

Price: £19.99

ISBN: 0-7236-1084-3

This book is well presented, with short sentences and concise descriptions, which allow the author to cover a great deal of material in a small book. Because of the headings and the short synopses at the beginning of each chapter, it is easy for the reader to find what he/she is looking for.

We would recommend the chapter on medically compromised patients, in that it includes all the potential problems and may serve as a quick reference for the trained practitioner and as a check list, to make sure nothing has been

overlooked. Nevertheless, the book does not achieve what its title would lead the reader to expect. Chapter 6, which deals with the technique for the removal of third molars, comprises 22 pages, of which only 16 actually deal with the removal of maxillary and mandibular third molars. Of necessity, therefore, this is done in a very superficial manner, which cannot possibly guide senior year students or inexperienced practitioners in the variety of difficult situations that the extraction of these teeth may present. In