

Book Reviews

Orthodontic Management of the Dentition with the Pre-adjusted Appliance (2001)

Authors: John C. Bennett and Richard P. McLaughlin

Publisher: Mosby, London, UK

Price: £135.00

ISBN: 0-7234-3265-1

The authors are well known for their erudite promotion of the pre-adjusted appliance mechanotherapy and have produced this book to provide clinical solutions with relevant evidence from published literature in a systematic manner based upon the management of each tooth. First published in 1997, and reprinted in 1998, the book comprises 380 pages organized into 10 chapters, which are beautifully illustrated with selected case reports, pertinent treatment sequence examples, and diagrams that summarize the text at comfortable intervals. This makes the book very reader friendly and the systematic structure of each chapter would appeal to enthusiastic undergraduates, inquisitive postgraduates, and seasoned orthodontists seeking clinical evidence. The authors aim to deal with day-to-day issues rather than the unusual, such as cleft lip and palate and root resorption.

Chapter 1 addresses the concept of ideal regarding condyle position, static occlusion, occlusal function, periodontal health, and aesthetics. Record collection, diagnosis, and treatment planning options for spacing and crowding are nicely presented with some bias toward gnathological concepts and Andrews' six keys (although the authors would add a seventh key: tooth size). Chapter 2 emphasizes the importance of bracket positioning and provides examples of how the simplistic use of the vertical midpoint of the clinical crown can be misleading. The development of their recommended bracket placement chart is interesting and underpins the authors' assertion that in the past the best results were produced by the best wire benders but that the future lies with the best bracket placers.

Chapter 3 focuses upon incisor problems, treatment, and stability. Although diagnosis

is rather basic, the 108 pages, 445 figures, and 76 references provide a wide coverage of issues which conclude with the sage comment of 'nothing is stable in a living organism'.

Canines are dealt with in chapter 4 with ample reference to the work of Kurol and Ericson, and the authors' methods for managing impacted canines are well illustrated. Undoubtedly 'movement of canines is one of the most important and challenging aspects of orthodontic treatment' but to a Begg or Tip-Edge operator this may not present the same sense of awe.

The characteristics and management of first premolars are detailed in Chapter 5 with excursions into the extraction versus non-extraction debate, particularly from gnathological perspectives of ideal functional occlusion and TMD implications. The literature review of premolar extractions and the reputed deleterious effects on profile flattening and posterior condylar displacement is valuable but does not venture beyond 1994 citations. Chapter 6 concentrates on upper arch premolar extraction (or agenesis), diagnosis and treatment principles. Chapter 7 covers the normal and aberrant formation, mechanical considerations and common clinical concerns related to the extraction or absence of second premolars.

Although first molar extractions are relatively uncommon in these days of fluoride and heightened dental awareness, chapter 8 presents many useful suggestions for when the occasion arises. The extraction of second molars has been controversial and Chapter 9 provides an excellent insight into the various issues with a summary of the advantages and disadvantages. The most recent reference (M. Richardson, 1996, in press) suggests that this 2001 edition has not benefited

from an update since it was first published in 1997. The tenth chapter embraces third molar development, impaction, treatment management, and very ably explores the perennial debate related to crowding. After an impressive review of the literature it seems we still don't have all the answers but 'the prophylactic' removal of third molars needs to be looked at more carefully by the profession.

Overall, a beautifully presented companion book to the authors' seminal work on the pre-adjusted appliance. Students will appreciate the systematic format but will be somewhat disappointed that this new edition appears not to have been adjusted since 1997.

Wayne Sampson

Evidence Based Management. A practical guide for health professionals (2002)

Author: Rosemary Stewart

Publisher: Radcliffe Medical Press, Oxon, UK

Price: £18.95

ISBN: 1-85775-458-1

To answer the question 'What is evidence based management?' the author modifies the definition of evidence based medicine to: *The conscientious, explicit and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions*. This book deals with this concept and aims to help managers to practice evidence based management. As the idea of evidence based medicine is well known to health care workers nowadays it is anticipated that this book will be particularly helpful for managers in the NHS or more in general in non-profit organizations.

In seven chapters the author develops the concept of evidence based management. In chapter 1 evidence based medicine and evidence based management are defined and compared. Chapter 2 basically deals with the question 'How to manage the job?', as managing the job well is a prerequisite before even thinking of improving using evidence based management. In chapter 3 ways are described to obtain and use information needed for making decisions. Chapter 4 is about performance and how the performance of a certain organization compares with others, and about monitoring what is happening in the organization. Chapter 5 describes the stages of decision making and how to improve the process, not forgetting the important role of intuition. The aim of chapter 6 is to facilitate the recognition of what you may need to learn if you are to practice evidence based management successfully.

Most important is to value and use evidence which also holds true for the practice of evidence based medicine. Finally, chapter 7 deals with the culture of the organization, and of powerful groups within it, and how these influence whether managers will be able to practice evidence based management.

Especially for those who are familiar with the concept of evidence based medicine, this book is easily readable. The chapters are well-organized and conclude with a summary and suggestions to improve. In particular, the case reports, given in grey boxes throughout the book, are worthwhile to read as they provide clear examples of the application of evidence based management in daily work. The scope of this book is evidence based management, but not all information found in this book is new and could also be gained from other managerial textbooks, but with a different focus. The author states that the NHS is a suitable target for this book as there is a growing emphasis for evidence based medicine and so the idea for evidence based management will be understood. Probably also orthodontists leading large practices and chairpersons of orthodontic departments could learn from this concept by reading this book.

Anne Marie Kuijpers-Jagtman