

Book Reviews

TMJ disorders and orofacial pain. The role of dentistry in a multidisciplinary approach (2002)

Authors: Axel Bumann and Ulrich Lotzmann
Publisher: Thieme Verlagsgruppe, Stuttgart, Germany
Price: €179
ISBN: 3-13-127161-2

Craniomandibular disorders (CMD) represent a group of diseases encountered by every dentist in daily practice. This excellent, graphically and photographically illustrated book provides the reader with very well organized information on the anatomic and diagnostic principles for temporomandibular disorders and orofacial pain.

The atlas gives an excellent overview of the many aspects that must be considered when evaluating a patient with CMD, considering both the dental and non-dental factors which may be involved in the aetiology of CMD. The multidisciplinary approach presented in this book is extremely well referenced wherever possible, thus adding important evidenced-based literature to the field.

The 360 pages of this atlas are divided into nine chapters. The main chapters are dedicated to anatomy (50 pages), manual functional analysis (90 pages), imaging procedures (60 pages) as well as diagnoses and classifications (40 pages). In addition there is an extensive chapter on mounting of casts and occlusal analysis as well as instrumental analysis of jaw movements. Therapeutic principles are just presented as a general overview and according to the authors will be the topic of a future book.

The 'manual functional analysis' chapter is outstanding as the single steps leading to the diagnosis are explained in detail and easy to follow. The 'imaging procedures' chapter describes the indications for every single imaging technique underlining the explanation by a multitude of images of different disorders. The section on magnetic resonance imaging pathology of the temporomandibular joint (TMJ) is one of the most detailed available in the literature. Furthermore, the 'diagnoses and classification' chapter is an excellent learning tool due to its perfectly structured organization.

The only disadvantage of the book is the price, although this is in the normal range for a Thieme colour atlas of dental medicine, the reader is however rewarded by exquisite quality illustrations throughout the book which contribute markedly to the learning process.

Overall this is an extraordinarily comprehensive teaching atlas on TMJ disorders and orofacial pain. In my opinion this is one of the foremost books which has ever been written on the topic and is recommended for every dentist and dental specialist.

Sabine Ruf

Twin Block Functional Therapy

Applications in Dentofacial Orthopaedics—Second Edition (2002)

Author: William J. Clark
Publisher: Mosby, St Louis
Price: £120.00
ISBN: 0723 43170 1

In the preface to the second edition of Twin Block Functional Therapy, the author indicates that one of the intriguing mysteries of contemporary orthodontics is the exact nature of human orthopaedic response to functional appliance therapy. Recent statistical and evidenced-based research has provided convincing support for the efficacy of orthopaedic techniques, and the book reviews information gathered on the effects of Twin Blocks on growth modification.

The second edition is a significant and exhaustive revision of the first but, of necessity, contains much of the same essential material. The case presentations and commentary still largely reflect Clark's experience in orthodontic practice and, although there are minor contributions from several guest authors, the work still remains a dedication to his lifetime in orthodontics/orthopaedics. The book maintains and furthers his philosophy that the correction of abnormal skeletal