

Book Review

Invisible Orthodontics. current concepts and solutions in lingual orthodontics (2003)

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This well-illustrated text provides a useful introduction to the technique of lingual orthodontics. In writing this book the authors stated aim was to dispel the commonly held perception that lingual orthodontics is a technically difficult procedure with limited application. Although the authors go some way to achieving their aim, after reading this book, one is still left with the impression that this technique places considerable demands on both the patient and the operator. Nonetheless, the authors have produced a relatively easy to read step-by-step account of both the clinical and laboratory stages involved in lingual orthodontics. The initial chapters help the clinician identify patients suitable for lingual orthodontics and there is a very useful chapter, which highlights the keys to success with this technique. The chapters on the laboratory stages are particularly good and the reader is guided through this complex area in an intelligent way using a combination of clear concise text and high quality illustrations. There is also a chapter that describes the laboratory stages of the indirect bonding method preferred by the authors. This novel method uses individual tooth trays to locate the brackets.

The chapter on biomechanics and comparative biomechanics is fairly impenetrable but thankfully quite short. In the two chapters describing the use of lingual orthodontics in extraction and non-extraction cases the authors make good use of both clinical and typodont illustrations to demonstrate the technical subtleties of lingual orthodontics. Both these chapters are accompanied by illustrated case reports of patients treated on an extraction and non-extraction basis. The penultimate chapter provides a fascinating insight into the attempts being made to reduce the technical difficulties with lingual orthodontics by exploring the use of a straight-wire technique based on the lingual arch form and self-ligating lingual brackets.

Overall, this book can be highly recommended for orthodontists who currently use lingual orthodontics and also for those orthodontists who do not use this technique but wish to find out more about invisible orthodontics.

Donald Burden

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