

practice of dentistry in the 21st century. The core themes of dental public health practice are also introduced. This leads into chapters on the determinants of health and health inequalities; concepts of health, disease, illness and ill health; and public health approaches to prevention (including strategy design and approaches, principles of screening, and prevention for individuals and populations).

The second section: 'Oral Epidemiology', commences with an overview of epidemiology, including descriptions of planning epidemiological studies, types of studies, measuring health and disease, and useful indices. This leads into a chapter covering trends in oral health with a focus on periodontal disease, oral cancer, and dental caries, as well as a discussion of oral health inequality. The next chapter is very topical and focuses on evidence-based medicine and dentistry. There is a summary of the so-called 'hierarchy of evidence' and how to make sense of the evidence which is presented to the reader. This very useful chapter stresses the importance of evidence-based dentistry whilst ensuring that the reader knows it cannot explain everything. This is followed, logically, by 'Critical appraisal of the literature', with useful checklists for assessing each section of a paper. A section on key considerations in statistics should prove useful to anyone reading scientific papers, postgraduates as well as undergraduates.

The third section focuses on 'Prevention and Oral Health Promotion' and includes chapters on principles of oral health promotion and an overview of behaviour change. The discussion of theories of behaviour change should prove interesting to all of us who have been given advice to patients which has clearly been ignored! Subsequent chapters focus on more specific prevention

areas, namely: sugars and caries; fluoride and fissure sealants; periodontal disease; oral cancer; and traumatic dental injuries.

The final section: 'Health Services', will have aspects of interest to anyone working in NHS dentistry. It commences with an overview of health care systems and a description of what constitutes a good health care system. This is followed by a description of the NHS, including the major influences over the last 50 years and the potential future influences, and also a summary of the provision of oral health care in the UK through the various sectors. The book wisely chooses not to be too specific in these sections, presumably in an attempt to avoid it going out of date too rapidly. It was useful to include a chapter on 'The European Union and Dentistry' although I would have liked to see more detail, particularly about European Legislation and the Dental Directives, although I accept that this level of understanding is probably not required at undergraduate level. The chapter on 'Health Economics' was well written and made some quite complex concepts relatively easy to follow. The final section concluded with problems in health services, with particular focus on availability, accessibility, affordability and acceptability of services.

This textbook is well written and comprehensive and I enjoyed reading it. I think it would prove useful to many qualified practitioners in the UK, not just undergraduates reading it as part of their course. It would be a useful addition to any bookshelf or library.

Susan J. Cunningham

## Essentials of orthognathic surgery (2003)

Author: Johan P Reyneke

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The use of orthognathic surgery has become very popular in association with adult orthodontics. Despite this, there are only a few books available that cover in sufficient detail the orthodontic procedures during these treatments. In this respect this book fills well the needs of the clinician where surgical techniques and treatment planning are concerned. The text details case presentations combined with beautiful drawings and photographs. The chapter on surgical techniques especially is very informative and easy to follow. Much emphasis in the book has been placed on treatment planning with visual treatment

objectives. The book discusses the use of manual tracing but does not include any mention of digital cephalometric analyses. In addition when dealing with orthognathic surgery in developing asymmetric cases, distraction osteogenesis as a choice of treatment could have been included. In spite of these relatively small shortcomings, the book can be well recommended to orthodontists working with these surgical cases.

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