

Book Reviews

Dental materials *in vivo*: aging and related phenomena (2003)

Authors: George Eliades, Theodore Eliades, William Brantley and David Watts

Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Company Limited, New Malden, Surrey, UK

Price: £76.00

ISBN: 0-86715-399-7

The long-term follow-up of materials is an area of interest in modern medicine especially in a litigious environment where population studies show people are living longer and the expectations of service provision are high. Equally of concern is the interaction of the host with substances and ions leached from chronically implanted materials. This book offers a comprehensive collection of data from many specialties of dentistry. The evidence from the *in vivo* environment of the interaction of many of the materials used in dentistry in the oral cavity clearly demonstrates there is a risk of fatigue and failure of the materials. Failure due to repetitive environmental assaults is not a new area in materials science; what is a modern consideration is the evidence of dental materials failing. The specialty areas studied include orthodontics, oral surgery, implants and

the many areas of restorative dentistry. The data is current and is well illustrated.

The section on orthodontic materials draws attention to the risks of ageing and related phenomena. It offers a good general overview and exhaustive bibliography of the subject. Of particular interest is Chapter 9 where Dr Matasa clearly shows how little we really know about the orthodontic materials we currently use. It may well be that in future orthodontists will have to identify each appliance used in order to limit unwanted phenomena and identify the offending material if problems occur.

The book provides useful food for thought and can be recommended on that account.

Marie-Pierryle Filleul

Tyldesley's oral medicine (5th edition, 2003)

Authors: Anne Field and Lesley Longman

Publisher: Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK

Price: £32.50

ISBN: 0 19 263147 0

This is the 5th edition of Tyldesley's oral medicine, thoroughly updated, and written as a comprehensive textbook in oral medicine. With its 19 chapters and 243 pages, this paperback contains more information than one might think from first impressions. The book has a good layout, and is well presented with photographs, diagrams and illustrations. Because of the headings and list of contents at the beginning of each chapter, it is easy for the reader to find what he or she is looking for. The tables in each chapter describing causes, symptoms, and therapeutic options in different diseases make for a systematic and quick overview. Different chapters cover causes and treatment of oral ulcerations, swellings of the face and neck, precancerous lesions and conditions, mucocutaneous diseases and connective tissue disorders. It is a little disappointing that photographs of each disease were not included, although described clinically in good detail. I, therefore, recommend an atlas of oral disease as a supplement for the reader.

Facial pain, neurological disturbances and psychogenic orofacial problems are also covered in this book. The last chapter contains systematic tables with causes, signs and management of different medical emergencies, that may serve as a reference list for practitioners. Case studies with discussions are presented for different diseases for self-directed and active learning. Suggestive projects added at the end of each chapter, may encourage more advanced students to connect with other reference sources. I can recommend this book as a good choice for dental students and general practitioners as a learning textbook in common oral medicine. In combination with an atlas in oral disease, this book gives a good introduction to the topic for postgraduate students in oral medicine.

Evelyn Neppelberg