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Lingual and esthetic orthodontics (2011)

Editor: Rafi Romano
Publisher: Quintessence Publishing, UK
Price: £256.00
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This 684 page illustrated book will appeal to any orthodontist wanting to develop a greater interest in lingual orthodontics. It is divided into six sections and 42 referenced chapters giving wide diverse coverage, expanding on the type of brackets, appliance types and instruments available, mechanics

considerations, use of implants through to clinically practical tips, and laboratory techniques.

On the upside, the first half of the book gives a good overview of the different lingual systems available; occasionally, bias comes across from the different

contributors stemming from enthusiasm for 'their' system as opposed to commercial bias. It allows the reader the opportunity to compare different systems on paper and there are 'gems' which are useful for lingual practitioners; however, some chapters are laborious to read. There is an enlightened final overview chapter written by the editor who manages to summarize the present state of aesthetic orthodontics and the possibilities for the future.

The title infers the subject matter of lingual and aesthetic orthodontics; however, in reality, the text focuses on the lingual technique. The text is written by a number of authors and suffers a little from repetition and is not always a smooth read due to the differences in style and subject matters. Many of the chapters describing different clinical techniques lack detail that would be required by a beginner and assume of certain level of knowledge. Although the

book is well illustrated, at times, the labelling is confusing. There are also some inconsistencies in the text.

In summary, this is not a book for the inexperienced clinician. It is written in a way that assumes a more than basic understanding of labial orthodontics let alone lingual techniques. I think the book achieves its aim of not to direct the reader towards one particular technique but to show the range of techniques available to the orthodontist. I found this book an interesting read even if a little heavy going at times and a bit of a publicity tool by some of the authors. It is an expensive buy so would probably only appeal to readers with a specific interest in lingual orthodontics or who are aiming to develop a wider understanding of a broad and evolving field.

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