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Color atlas of dental hygiene—periodontology (2006)

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This book aims to increase the spectrum of dental and medical knowledge, and is targeted especially at the dental hygienist. However, it would also be useful for the general dental practitioner.

It is very comprehensive and thoughtfully laid out. It starts with the fundamentals, biology, aetiology, microbiology, and the classification of periodontal disease and continues with treatment, oral hygiene, scaling, medication, and surgery. There is an excellent chapter on instrumentation which would be especially useful to students.

Perhaps, more could have been written on smoking cessation, considering the importance of smoking in relation to periodontal disease.

There is barely any mention of local anaesthesia when this subject could warrant a whole chapter; pain control is so important for patient comfort and for successful treatment. Whilst local anaesthesia may have been glanced over because the regulations for hygienists differ in other countries, it would have been a useful addition for hygienists in the UK.

This is a spectacular book with excellent diagrams and photographs. It will be useful not only for those in training but also for hygienists in practice. It also looks to the future when hygienists may have a wider remit and have their own independent surgeries.

Sue Skinner

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