Book Review

European Journal of Orthodontics 423 doi:10.1093/ejo/cjm041

Panoramic radiology (2006)

Editors: Vivian E. Rushton and John Rout Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Co. Ltd, New Malden, Surrey, UK Price: £28.00 ISBN: 1-85097-080-7

This book is one of many in the Quintessence range for dental practitioners, and is aimed at all members of the dental team who are involved in taking panoramic radiographs. The book is printed on high gloss paper, A5 size and comprises 143 pages.

The chapter sequencing is excellent, with topics ranging from historical aspects, radiographic technique, and anatomy to practical faults and radiographic diagnoses. Each chapter is introduced with an intended aim and outcome, which some people may find useful, although they often state the obvious, are repetitive and largely superfluous. The clear, concise style of writing makes for easy reading, and is accompanied by a large number of illustrative photographs and high quality colour schematic drawings. Some of the more important references are given in the body of the text, but from a purely academic point of view, more pertinent references would have given the book greater scientific weighting. Further reading is, however, suggested at the end of each chapter should the reader wish to seek additional information. The chapters on technique and quality assurance are particularly useful for those taking panoramic radiographs on a routine basis, and that on image interpretation presents a user-friendly guide for those out of the ordinary images that practitioners face on the odd occasion. The chapter on anatomy could have benefited from an overview picture of the anatomical structures before plunging into the details, although this is a minor point in a book that is overall a very informative read for practitioners, assistants, and students alike, and would be an excellent addition to the practice or personal library.

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