

Book Reviews

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Applications of orthodontic mini-implants (2007)

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This book consists of 11 chapters over 269 pages. It is well illustrated and indexed and the references mentioned in the text are at the end of each chapter.

The chapters themselves cover a wide range of areas: some focus on theoretical aspects such as 'Evolution of orthodontic mini implants' and 'Fundamentals of skeletal anchorage design', but the main focus is clinical. The chapter 'Function of new screw type orthodontic mini-implants' emphasizes what the authors perceive are the advantages of one particular implant system. Unfortunately this chapter appears quite biased. The chapter on 'Treatment planning' is well written and contains extensive information relating to patient selection as well as help with the decision-making process relating to the site selection for microimplants. This chapter is also concerned with safeguarding the patient from inadvertent damage, which could potentially be caused by microimplants. The chapter on 'Surgical procedures' covers all aspects ranging from pre-operative preparation to practical tips for the insertion

itself to ergonomic position of the operator. The chapter on 'Mechanics and limitations' gives various examples of biomechanical aspects of implant-based orthodontic anchorage. All following chapters are copiously illustrated containing clinical examples of applications and are subdivided into various clinical aspects such as vertical, transverse, and antero-posterior anchorage problems. Some of the results are truly stunning, but (unfortunately) not all case studies were illustrated to a degree I would have liked to see: from start to finish including more radiographic examinations. A slight weakness of the book is not to show any examples of unfavourable side-effects of implant-based mechanics (and to help the novice practitioner on how to deal with those).

Although not all of us will agree with the individual applications of the microimplants mentioned in this book, I recommended it highly for all who wish to use and/or place mini-implants for orthodontic anchorage.

Dirk Bister

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