

Book Reviews

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Radiographic imaging for the dental team, 4th edition (2008)

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This textbook is now in its 4th edition and has been revised in several areas to keep it up to date in terms of new technology and current radiation protection advice. In addition, there is now supplementary online material for both students and instructors on the Evolve website.

The book comprises 11 chapters, with the first being devoted to intraoral imaging. Here, the standard intraoral projections are described. Diagrams and photographs showing correct positioning are included, as well as examples of the resultant radiographs. The normal radiographic anatomy is well described in a later chapter. Panoramic imaging is addressed in Chapter 8. The various positioning errors are explained, but the radiographic images demonstrating the normal anatomy are a little on the small size.

Chapter 5 deals with radiation protection. The recommendations include the latest US guidance from Radiation Protection in Dentistry produced by the National Council on Radiation Protection. The recommendations are broadly similar with the guidance of other countries, but there will be differences so the reader should refer to the published guidance in their particular country. In the same

chapter, selection criteria are also outlined. These are based on the Food and Drug Administration guidelines and, inevitably, the suggestions are at slight variance from published guidance from other countries.

Chapter 7 outlines digital imaging and the different types of systems are described along with the characteristics of a digitally generated image. Other specialized modalities are described in Chapter 11, and cone beam computed tomography is included. This is a welcome addition as this modality is becoming increasingly used in dentistry.

Overall the book is nicely illustrated and the radiographs are of good quality. One minor criticism is that the chapters feel slightly out of sequence. For instance, the radiographic technique chapters are not grouped together but are interspersed throughout the book. The study questions at the end of the chapters are useful to reinforce the important learning points arising from the chapter. Although the book is not aimed primarily at the orthodontic specialty, it would be a useful addition to any orthodontic team undertaking radiography.

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