

Book Reviews

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Periodontics

Sixth edition

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Adult patients seeking orthodontic treatment often present with periodontal problems and orthodontists may wish to update or maintain basic knowledge on periodontology, not only on behalf of older patients but also for young patients who may present with periodontal problems.

This book may offer helpful support especially when assessing the periodontal condition, treatment possibilities, and prognosis for individual (former) periodontal patients presenting for orthodontic treatment. The sixth edition of this comprehensive book covers all aspects of periodontology; there are 30 chapters and 420 pages with several thousand references (up to 2008). It includes almost every aspect of periodontology encompassing diagnosis, etiology, epidemiology, and treatment possibilities.

Although clinical illustrations are often rather modest, the schematic images are mostly of high quality and very instructive. Periodontal anatomy, the development of periodontal tissues, tissue remodelling, and periodontal aging are extensively covered.

The book considers a number of host defence factors in periodontal disease such as saliva, plaque, and calculus development and includes a very detailed description of host antigen processes in periodontal disease. There are separate chapters covering various aspects which are involved in the etiology of periodontal disease such as bacterial factors, smoking, HIV/Aids, hereditary factors, syndromes, systemic factors, hormones, diseases, drugs, and sub-gingival margins of restorations. Clear well-organized flow charts and illustrations provide a good overview of these topics. There are separate chapters on juvenile periodontitis, acute infectious gingival lesions, and on direct and indirect tissue damage that occurs during periodontal disease and all these are very informative. Diagnostics tests and plaque control are comprehensively covered.

Guidance for basic periodontal treatment and what to do and what to avoid is practical and useful. The use of antibiotics in treatment, prophylaxis, their risks, and

drawbacks receive clear and ample mentioning. However, the authors' advice on prophylactic use of antibiotics during orthodontic band placement for patients with cardiovascular complications will be seen as controversial in some countries. Chapters on surgical treatment are profound, clear, and instructive. Special attention is given to a number of flap techniques with their specific indications and disadvantages; guided tissue regeneration, bone transplants, and other tissue grafts are treated likewise. The possibilities of surgical techniques covering buccal recessions are of particular note.

Malocclusions, orthodontic treatment, and orthodontic appliances are mentioned only very briefly, although removable orthodontic appliances and their adverse periodontal effects are discussed and illustrated. No reference is made to the extensive literature on possible adverse periodontal effects of orthodontic treatment with fixed appliances. As for malocclusion as an etiological factor of periodontal decline, the influence of crowding and the lack of lip seal are mentioned in several chapters, although literature on this topic still remains controversial. In the chapter on prevention of periodontal disease, the authors suggest that the Angle classification should be included in the diagnosis but no details of the classification are given nor is the relation between malocclusion and periodontal disease defined. Bone resorption due to orthodontics is mentioned for tipping and bodily tooth movement in the chapter on orthodontic trauma, but the references provided are very limited. Orthodontic treatment of patients with reduced bone support is not mentioned.

In summary, this book offers a large amount of useful information that can be particularly valuable when discussing periodontal treatment possibilities with patients and their referring dentists.

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