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Lingual orthodontics: a new approach using the STb light lingual system and lingual straight wire

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This 256 page hardcover book follows on from the previous edition, *Invisible Orthodontics*, and brings the reader up to date with some of the latest techniques in treating patients with the only truly invisible orthodontic appliance—the lingual appliance. The book also contains contributions from many of the World's leading lingual orthodontists, Fillion and Komori to name two.

The authors highlight that the book has been adopted for the University of Ferrara postgraduate course in lingual orthodontics. While the book covers many aspects of lingual orthodontics, some are lacking, for example, a comprehensive review/list of all brackets currently available or explanation of 'class', 'dali', etc. Therefore, I would recommend that other texts are also read so that anyone embarking upon lingual orthodontics has a complete and comprehensive knowledge of all the various techniques available and utilizes one that best suits the patient's malocclusion. The book is not for newcomers to the world of lingual orthodontics.

Throughout the book great emphasis is placed on light forces, which is no bad thing. However, STb brackets are sold through Ormco and one wonders about Ormco's Damon influence as there is a section of tissue reaction to orthodontic loading and also a change in treatment planning from using the lower incisors as a reference point to using the upper incisors. There is even a whole chapter dedicated to orthodontic forces and supporting tissues and also one on

friction (but the investigations undertaken for the book are limited as they only test round wires)—I cannot help but feel the space could have been better utilized in expanding other areas for example how the new straightwire arch form was derived.

The book is well illustrated with several clinical cases that help with the explanation of the lingual straightwire, Kommon base, and problems that can occur with extraction treatment. However, several of the diagrams appear to be taken from the previous book.

There are a few, in my opinion, misguided comments. One example is that the treatment of a malocclusion can increase the well-being of a person (a gross generalization and not supported by any evidence). Another inappropriate statement is about breakage of the Forestadent two-dimensional bracket clip (which the manufacturer has now addressed)—the legacy of such a statement will live for the life span of the book.

Overall, this is a very welcome addition to the library of lingual orthodontists that is easy to read and well illustrated. There are a few, what I believe, inappropriate comments about other manufacturers' systems and possible bias of the investigations undertaken within the book, but as anyone within the lingual orthodontic world knows, it is a very political arena. Worth taking the time to read.

Ian Hutchinson

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