

Book Reviews

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Treating the Triad: Teeth, Muscles and TMJs (2011)

Author: Giuseppe Cozzani

Publisher: Quintessence Publishing Co. Ltd., New Malden, Surrey, UK

Price: £225.00

ISBN: 9788874921522

This beautifully crafted book of 407 colour pages in six chapters is clearly a reflection of the author's passion and commitment to this topic.

The area of relating the occlusion with the functions of the temporomandibular joint is clearly an area of controversy and the author reflects this from the outset by use of the phrase 'School of thought'.

It has many illustrations of high quality although being somewhat overcritical, diagrams are used on page 44 when in fact very high quality clinical photographs demonstrate similar points on page 79.

Many readers must always consider books in a contemporaneous setting of justifying clinical care pathways and there should be the realization that a significant amount of what is printed is often not refereed. In many ways, the adage of this reviewer is reflected in this book; do not comment on the quality until you have looked at the bibliography. There are references but in many instances, they are not readily available. The ones that are, are clearly used to persuade individuals of the scientific merit of this approach. However, to validate these references, none appear suitable on first inspection for inclusion in a

systematic review. There are some references to articles observing gait and dental occlusion, using in the one reference 20 healthy adults. Like many such references, there is limited reporting of the data. A research study reported in more detail consists of nine patients with an age range of 13–59 years; again, there is incomplete reporting of the sample. A study such as this would find difficulty in being published in a reputable journal.

A computer search of the cost of purchasing this book today at £225 is somewhat excessive.

At this price, while a reader may well be deterred from owning such a tome, it is certainly worth having an inspection of the contents.

Whether it will change the management of dysfunction is questionable. It does offer alternatives for those fraught clinicians unable to manage some intractable problems but it is not clear what the predisposing factors are and hence, the success rate would therefore be unpredictable.

In summary, a well presented and a work of promise. On my shelf, only by virtue of being a reviewer.

Fraser McDonald

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