Book review

J Andreasen, F Andreasen, L Andersson, eds (2007) *Textbook and Color Atlas of Traumatic Injuries to the Teeth,* 4th edn. Published by Blackwell Publishing, Oxford, p. 912. ISBN 978-1-4051-2954-1, h/b, £155.00

It is likely that all dentists, whatever their speciality. come into contact with trauma cases at one time or another. Management of these cases requires knowledge of several disciplines including orthodontics, restorative dentistry, and of course, endodontology. This textbook covers these disciplines and many others in detail and in a manner that is both practical and informative. This edition contains 13 new chapters. The book begins by reviewing the biological mechanisms involved in both injuries and the response of the oral tissues. New chapters include stem cells and regeneration of injured dental tissue, osteoclastic activity, MTA and aesthetic considerations. It goes without saying that the sections on injury types are thorough. Almost every page is beautifully illustrated with both colour and black and white histological and clinical pictures that make it a pleasure to read. At the end of each chapter is a thorough list of references covering not only the authors' works but also work from other experts in the field of traumatic injuries. Particularly useful components of each chapter on injuries are the survival data. These provide the reader with the likely prognosis of teeth based on, in many cases, recently updated research.

The treatment chapters follow a logical sequence and neatly come to an end with an 'essentials' section that summarizes important points. Within the chapters, any treatment protocols are clearly explained and supported with diagrams that will allow the reader to incorporate theories into their own clinical practice.

This fourth edition is an excellent text for undergraduates and an essential resource for those working with children or in the emergency services. This is the most comprehensive textbook on Traumatic injuries and is a must have reference for those involved with dental trauma, whatever the age of the patient.

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