Exercises in oral radiology and interpretation, 4th edition

Authored by Robert P Langlais Saunders, St Louis, Missouri 63146, USA 2004, 381 pages, illustrated, softcover ISBN 0-7216-0025-5

This book is a compilation of review exercises for oral radiology and interpretation. Each chapter focuses on a review of a specific radiographic principle or technique using exercises. The reader is presented with a radiographic or clinical image and is prompted with questions regarding the image. All answers and rationale are presented at the end of the book. Certain clinical radiographs are paired with an exact diagram of the clinical film. The diagram provides clarity of what is being identified in each image.

The book is divided into two parts. Part 1, includes 11 chapters relating to the principles and interpretation of radiography. The 11 review chapters are titled as follows: (a) normal anatomy, (b) materials and foreign objects, (c) intraoral radiography: clinical technique, (d) intraoral radiography: errors seen in radiographs, (e) intraoral digital imaging, (f) panoramic radiography: clinical technique, (g) panoramic radiography: errors seen in radiographs, (h) panoramic digital imaging, (i) radiation health, (j) dental anomalies, and (k) assessment/interpretation of pathology of the jaws. These chapters present a very thorough review of these components of radiology. Each chapter begins with identifying the goal for the chapter, learning objectives, and instructions for how to approach the material in the chapter. The images are clearly presented and the questions are organized below each image.

Part 2 provides a comprehensive presentation of 475 examination questions and an answer key for students and dental hygiene or dental clinicians who are preparing for school, state and national board examinations. The examination questions are divided into two sections. The first section presents 300 questions pertaining to the review of the principles of radiation physics, health and biology. Section 2 provides 125 questions focusing on radiographic assessment and interpretation. Each of the 125 questions is presented with a radiographic image. Many of the questions are case based and require a level of critical thinking that provides added challenge for the student.

The book is a comprehensive and excellent review of oral radiology and interpretation. I would recommend this book for students and practicing dental hygienists who are preparing for any type of comprehensive clinical dental hygiene examination.

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