Periodontal examination: 2nd edition

Authored by Jan Egelberg and Anita Badersten OdontoScience Prinfo/Team Offset & Media, Malmö, Sweden 2004, 85 pages, illustrated, hardcover ISBN 91-971823-6-2

This is a small, concisely written book that outlines the periodontal examination. The subject matter is organized into 11 sections explaining the structures of the periodontal tissues, the deviations from normal in gingivitis and periodontitis, and recommended components for completing a periodontal examination.

The information is very basic and it only covers the periodontal examination. The text could be used as an accompanying resource for students but it would be too minimal in its content to stand alone as a resource for dental and dental hygiene students. Most periodontal texts include the periodontal examination as one of the chapters and subsequently other periodontal texts offer much more depth in the detailing of the periodontium, related structures, etc. In other words, other periodontal texts are typically much more comprehensive making it unnecessary for a student to purchase another text. The text is clearly organized and augmented with very wellproduced clinical photographs, radiographs, diagrams and histological representations. However, the information is presented in its simplest and most basic form making it questionable in regards to the utilization of this type of book. Perhaps, it could be beneficial for students preparing for board examinations who are looking for an overview on the periodontal examination. Each of the eleven sections has self-study questions, which would aid the student review of this material.

I do not see a broad audience for this type of book. It is clearly presented but an additional text would be needed for undergraduate students in order to cover the material in more depth. I would only tentatively recommend this book for students who are reviewing for board examinations.

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