



BOOK REVIEW

Ultrasonic Periodontal Debridement: theory and technique

Authored by Marie D. George, Timothy G. Donley, Philip M. Preshaw. 2014, Wiley Blackwell. 232 pages, soft cover. ISBN: 978-1-118-29545-8.

The authors list contains a combination of a dental hygienist and two periodontists with experience as clinician, educator, author, lecturer and/or researcher. The book brings together their combined knowledge in dental hygiene education, periodontal practice and periodontal academia to provide the reader with a sound guide to the use of ultrasonics as an essential treatment modality in periodontal debridement. In fact, the book acts as a framework for making evidence-based decisions in non-surgical periodontal therapy.

The book is intended for all clinicians treating patients with periodontal diseases including qualified dentists, dental hygienists or all students in training programmes, residents and periodontists. It consists of eight chapters divided into three sections: fundamental concepts of periodontal treatment, ultrasonic technology and clinical applications. Each chapter starts with a box containing the objectives to be addressed, ending with a list of used references. In addition to the chapters, there is a nice glossary as well as a companion website (www.wiley.com/go/george/ultrasonic) including PowerPoint files of illustrations and tables from the book available for downloading. Furthermore, there are images for faculty use and an instructor guide that would make incorporating the book into an educational setting for students or continuing education for dental care professionals very practical.

In the first section, the background of periodontal debridement is addressed including the history of periodontal therapy starting early with Albucasis (936–1013), an Arab Muslim physician and surgeon who lived in Al-Andalus, Caliphate of Córdoba. He is considered the founder of modern medical instruments including periodontal scalers and is the most frequently cited surgical authority of the Middle Ages. Ultrasonics are compared to other treatment modalities. Issues such as debridement of the implant surface and the use of lasers are discussed. The second part focuses on the technology of ultrasonics, including the movement of the tip, irrigation and the different tip designs. Section 3 extends over more than half of the book presenting various aspects of clinical applications, an important strength of this resource, starting from patient assessment to practical techniques for use, described per sextant and 5 modules in further detail on furcation debridement. Beyond cleaning tooth surfaces by the use of ultrasonics, the book also illustrates that they can be used on implant surfaces and for supra and subgingival use. The last chapter describes some cases valuable in highlighting practical application. At

the end of the book, there is a practical index and an extensive glossary.

Overall, it is a well-illustrated book containing numerous clinical pictures and equipment photographs from a range of brands, highlighting the full product details. Some nice illustrations serve to clarify mechanisms of action and position of the operator. Tables for clarification are incorporated to condense the breadth of information. Positioning on the tooth surface of the different tips is well documented by the use of a model with a transparent gum simplifying understanding. Arrows for depicting the movement of the tip on the surface are effective and helpful to the reader. Sitting positions are given for both right- and left-handed operators by sextant.

Altogether, the book provides a basis in training curricula suitable for a broad range of dental care professional curricula and educational settings. Furthermore, working or experienced dental care professionals would also benefit from the content addressed. A small point of criticism, Wiley as the publisher mentioned that this book is the first textbook to focus exclusively on this fundamentally important component of periodontal therapy. However, this should be corrected as other books exist including *'The Power of Ultrasonics'* that was published in 2007 in English and French by Quintessence.

The Power of Ultrasonics

Fridus van der Weijden

Published by Quintessence

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Le monde fascinant des ultrasons

Fridus van der Weijden

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Conflict of interest and source of funding statement

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest. Fridus van der Weijden is an author of books on the topic of ultrasonics.

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