

Book Reviews

Treatment Planning in Primary Dental Care. Edited by Ann Shearer & Anthony Mellor. Oxford University Press, London. 2003. £24.95 (paperback). 115 pp. ISBN 0198508956.

This book is aimed at undergraduate students, especially those in their final year who are preparing their case presentations. It is very concise and to-the-point, following a logical order and guiding readers through various steps from the clinical examination and making a diagnosis to treatment planning. The content page of each chapter is highlighted in colour, which is very reader-friendly. *Treatment Planning in Primary Dental Care* is divided into nine chapters and has a total number of 115 pages. It brings the various disciplines of dentistry together in a structured and logical way. Chapters 5 and 6, on 'Decision Making' and 'Clinical Choices', respectively, are good examples of this. The book strikes a good balance between the amount of information given and the level of expectation of undergraduate knowledge.

Treatment Planning in Primary Dental Care is well presented, with many photographs, illustrations, drawings and radiographs, and is further complemented by an easy-to-follow text. The abundant use of headings, bullet points and highlights makes it very readable. The authors have rightly emphasized that communications with the patients are very important in the delivery and success of treatment. This includes verbal discussions and written advice. In chapter 8, 'Continuing Care', the importance of effective recalls and maintenance protocols are discussed in a very concise way that echoes the new guidelines from National Institute of Clinical Excellence on the recall interval between dental check-ups. The final chapter on 'Treatment Planning Examples' amalgamates all the concepts mentioned in previous chapters and applies them in real clinical situations. The references and further reading section are also divided according to different chapters in the book. Such an arrangement will certainly make further readings easier.

All in all, *Treatment Planning in Primary Dental Care* is a useful text, not only for senior undergradu-

ates, but also for vocational trainees as a quick revision tool.

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Orthodontic Management of Agenesis and Other Complexities: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Functional Aesthetics. By Michael Arvystas. Martin Dunitz, London. 2003. £75.00 (hardback). 227 pp. ISBN 1-84184-181-1.

The title of this book is somewhat misleading in view of the fact that the author dedicates only two chapters to the absent lateral incisors and premolars and their subsequent management. The remaining chapters deal with a variety of different issues, from adult interdisciplinary care through to the management of long face syndrome, and the book concludes with a variety of cases which have been essentially selected on the basis of their difficulty and complexity. *Orthodontic Management of Agenesis and Other Complexities* provides a personal account of the management of these issues by the author. The first chapter deals with current concepts in aesthetics. It provides an interesting perspective on the complexities and relative interaction between facial form, the smile and the interpretation of the smile line in relation to anterior tooth alignment.

Chapter 2 explores the management of patients with absent lateral incisors. A detailed account is made of the factors which should be taken into consideration when planning care for this group of patients. Whilst it is generally accepted that the management of such cases requires that we open the space for prosthetic replacement, space closure can also be considered. The author proposes that space opening is the only viable option in view of the risk of causing arch contraction and unfavourable aesthetics. Very little support is provided for this and the relative advantages of space closure are not acknowledged.

In line with his view, the author then presents five cases, all of whom have undergone space opening using a mechanism for distalizing the buccal segments that is nonpatient-compliant. Whilst the cases are treated well, the definitive restoration for the replacement of the lateral incisor appears to be a dual resin-retained bridge. There is no discussion regarding the problems associated with this design over and above a single, cantilevered resin-retained bridge. Within the UK, this is certainly regarded as being the design of choice for a number of reasons.

Chapter 3 addresses the issue of managing absent premolars. The introduction states that absent premolars tend to be the second most commonly absent teeth from the arch after third molars. Whilst this is supported by only a single reference, the subject is somewhat controversial, with an equal number of reports suggesting that the lateral incisors are indeed more prevalent in their absence from the arch after the third molars. With regard to the treatment options, the author presents a short synopsis of the variety of choices which exist for the management of absent premolars, ranging from maintenance of the primary molars through to their extraction, permitting either spontaneous tooth movement to occur or replacement with a prosthetic tooth, and finally, orthodontic space closure in the presence of a co-existing malocclusion.

This chapter essentially consists of six treated cases with a variety of objectives. However, the rationale for the proposed treatments is somewhat lacking and the quality of the images in parts is also extremely poor. With respect to the Cephalometrics, there are no analyses presented. Of particular note in the fact that the author outlines the importance of facial and dental aesthetics. However, in the case of a young female treated for agenesis of the mandibular second premolars, the solution described was to maintain the primary second molars and the final aesthetics are far from optimal, with large spacing evident proximal to the lateral incisors. No explanation or rationale is provided for this. It is a particular shortcoming of this chapter that the issue of auto-transplantation is completely overlooked.

Chapter 4 refers to the interdisciplinary management of adult patients. However, there is little discussion regarding the importance of managing adults with orthodontic treatment and the chapter essentially presents two patients with diverse malocclusions treated by a variety of orthodontic techniques. The level of interdisciplinary care essentially entails restorative input with respect to incisal re-contouring, bleaching and the use of laminate veneers on the maxillary incisors.

Chapter 5 attempts to evaluate the orthodontic/surgical management of patients presenting with long face syndrome. Very little information is provided on the aetiology and treatment considerations for this group of individuals, and indeed, no specific attention is given to the potential for relapse. This chapter focuses on the presentation of four treated cases.

The final chapter of *Orthodontic Management of Agenesis and Other Complexities* describes a number of orthodontic patients presenting with what the author describes as complex aspects to their orthodontic diagnosis and treatment. This chapter essentially consists of a series of eight cases treated using a variety of methods.

In general, I found the style of the text a little dated in its presentation. The photographic evidence is good, although it is not always of the highest standard, including some of the radiographic pictures. The overall message that the author wishes to convey in this book is not always easy to perceive. Whilst the initial chapters are well focussed on the issue of agenesis in relation to management, the latter ones are very much a personal perspective. Nevertheless, I feel that, while *Orthodontic Management of Agenesis and Other Complexities* is not necessarily recommended reading, it may serve as a reference text.

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