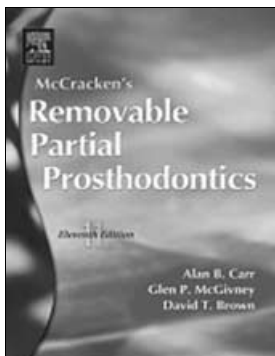


# Book Reviews

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## **McCracken's Removable Partial Dentures, 11th edition**

*Alan B. Carr, Glenn P. McGivney, and David T. Brown. Elsevier, Mosby Inc., St Louis, 2005: ISBN 0-323-02628-1 (480 pages, 900 illustrations (550 color); price \$95; hardcover)*

Removable partial dentures have not significantly changed in the 45 years since the first publication of *Removable Partial Dentures*; what has changed, though, is that educational research has provided educators and authors with a better understanding of how people learn and how to improve learning. The introduction of the Internet and the concept of white space in presenting information has also affected how we present information.

The authors of this new edition of *McCracken's Removable Partial Dentures* have made major changes to the format of the book since the last edition 5 years ago. An effective use of white space, colored text, tables, and charts guides student learning and aids the practitioner in reviewing and researching various aspects of removable partial dentures. The authors do a good job of interjecting background about why certain concepts or materials are preferred, with either additional explanations or an up-to-date reference list at the end of each chapter. Many pictures have been added or replaced, and most are presented in color. Although there are still some pictures in black and white, it should be understood that many times it is difficult to find clinical examples of procedures or

for them to be an accurate representation of what the author is trying to describe. Remember a picture is worth a thousand words, so the authors have tried to choose those words carefully. At the end of each chapter the authors have maintained the self-assessment aids. These questions are great for students to review and ensure that they understand the information presented in the chapter.

This edition has maintained the organization so familiar from the previous editions. Part I introduces general concepts and treatment planning. The first four chapters provide an overview of the subject of removable partial dentures. This is a general overview of the types of prostheses, biomechanical considerations, and how we classify partially edentulous arches. The classification of the partially edentulous arch is limited to the Kennedy Classification and rightly so, as it is the most widely used treatment classification. Although the authors make reference to a classification system that is based on diagnostic criteria they do not describe it. I hope that in future editions of the book the authors will provide more information on the American College of Prosthodontists Diagnostic Classification of the Partially Edentulous Patient rather than just reference it at the end of the text. This would provide for more holistic diagnostic criteria and would aid the practitioner in determining the complexity of the patient's needs vs. just providing information as to what type of prosthesis the patient might receive.

Five very well-written and illustrated chapters describing the component parts of removable partial dentures, followed by a review of the principles of design and how to survey the partially edentulous cast, complete Part I. In the surveying chapter, the color photographs and line drawings work well together to provide instruction on surveying the partially edentulous cast.

Part II is the strongest part of the book as it goes through, step by step, the clinical and laboratory procedures one would use to provide removable partial denture treatment for a patient. This is the heart and soul of the book. Each chapter provides

information about what should happen at each appointment or phase of appointments. Many principles from other disciplines are reviewed, to ensure that the reader takes into account not just the restoration of the partially edentulous arch but also the whole patient. The one weakness that stands out is the lack of information on the exploding area of osseointegration and how it can aid in the treatment of the partially edentulous patient. Although there are several clinical examples of how implants can be used to help support removable partial dentures, they are presented only as clinical photographs and do not really give the reader any ideas or information on how to incorporate implants into removable partial denture treatment. Overall, Part II presents not only standard techniques that have been proven to work well, but also alternatives and their indications for use.

The shortest part of the book is Part III, which deals with maintenance and repair of removable and temporary partial dentures. The last chapter deals with the extremely complex topic of removable partial denture considerations in maxillofacial prosthetics. This topic could be the subject of a textbook on its own. The authors describe several classifications of maxillofacial partial edentulism, design considerations, and the types of prostheses that these severely compromised patients need. Treatment options for these patients are presented in such a way as to be just enough for practitioners to have an understanding of what is involved in treating these patients. This area of dental therapy is very demanding, as are the demands of these patients. Except for those patients with the simplest of defects, patients with maxillofacial defects should probably be treated only by those who have had advanced training in maxillofacial prosthodontics.

Overall, this is an excellent resource for both dental students and practitioners. This well-organized text allows for quick and easy reference. It also provides for in-depth review of a number of techniques to ensure excellence in patient care for the student and the practitioner. The two shortcomings I hope the authors will address in future editions relate to incorporating both the American College of Prosthodontists Diagnostic Classification for the Partially Edentulous Patient into the diagnosis section of the text, and also the use of implants in removable partial denture therapy.

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### **Bone Biology, Harvesting, and Grafting for Dental Implants: Rationale and Clinical Applications**

Arun K. Garg. Quintessence Publishing Co., Inc., Carol Stream, IL, 2004: ISBN 0-86715-441-1 (279 pages, 692 illustrations (mostly color); price \$158; hard cover)

As suggested by the title, the purpose of this textbook is to review all aspects of the interactions of bone biology, bone harvesting, bone grafting, and dental implantology. The author continually emphasizes understanding of the basic biologic processes to elevate the reader's knowledge not only in technical aspects, but also the corresponding biologic processes. This textbook provides detailed explanations with excellent references at the end of each chapter. The intended audience is primarily clinicians experienced in periodontics or oral and maxillofacial surgery, as well as graduate students in those fields.

The book is organized in a logical manner, discussing bone physiology, grafting materials, and ridge preservation techniques in Part I. Bone harvesting techniques are discussed in Part II, and Part III covers all aspects of bone grafting. The book's final chapter deals with the future of biologic growth factors and platelet-rich plasma.

Part I consists of four chapters. Extensive discussion and appropriate illustrations discuss all aspects of bone metabolism, macroscopic and microscopic structure of bone, and bone modeling and remodeling. The author further discusses all aspects of bone-grafting materials including autogenous, allografts, alloplasts, xenografts, and tissue-engineered materials. The principle objectives of the barrier membrane technique are thoroughly covered, along with an in-depth discussion

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