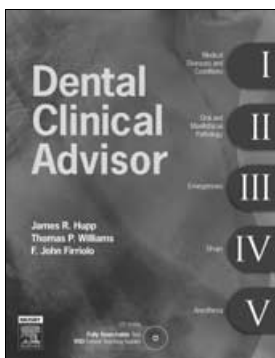


Book Reviews



Dental Clinical Advisor

James R. Hupp, Thomas P. Williams, F. John Firriolo, Mosby Elsevier. St. Louis, Missouri: ISBN – 10: 0-323-03425-X, ISBN – 13: 97810-323.03425-X. (566 pages, No color illustrations, hard cover; price \$89.00)

The editors have assembled nearly 50 contributors to compile this book. They seek to bring a great deal of information on medical conditions, pharmacology, emergencies, and pathologic conditions to a busy practitioner, in the form of a reference text.

This text of 566 pages includes five sections and two appendices. The sections are:

- Section I – Medical Diseases and Conditions
- Section II – Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- Section III – Emergencies
- Section IV – Drugs
- Section V – Anesthesia

The two appendices offer common, helpful information for medical diseases and conditions and clinical algorithms. The book comes with a CD (PC or Mac), which covers all the information in the text and also includes a large number of patient education guides (900) with drug information. This is available in both English and Spanish, can be printed, and is customizable to include specific practice information.

Section I covers over 100 medical diseases and conditions, ranging from very common to rare

entities. These conditions are listed alphabetically and contain synonyms, followed by the ICD-NCM/CPT codes. Each condition description begins with an overview and progresses to epidemiology and demographics, etiology and pathogenesis, and clinical presentation and physical findings. The diagnosis of the disease is discussed, along with the medical management and treatment, complications, and prognosis. A very interesting aspect of this text is that the dental significance and dental management is discussed in detail. Each section is followed by a number of suggested references. Section 1, therefore, allows a very quick approach to these diseases either in book form or on the CD and is especially helpful in a busy dental practice, where the significance of the condition to dentistry and how it will affect the management of the patient can be quickly referenced. The diagnostic/treatment codes may be helpful for insurance records and categorization with various agencies. This section contains tables that may be helpful, but lacks illustrations.

Section 2, “Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology,” covers nearly 100 pathologic entities with a similar approach to these diseases. This section, again, makes obtaining this information simple, but has only a few clinical, radiographic, and histopathologic illustrations, all in black and white.

Section 3 covers 37 emergencies the dental practitioner could confront. This section is arranged in a similar fashion to the first two sections.

Section 4 details various drugs and focuses on drugs not likely to be prescribed by dentists, but commonly used by physicians. The 64 drugs listed were ranked in the top drugs prescribed in 2004 in the United States. The drugs are listed according to their generic name, followed by their commonly used brand names. There is information about the drug’s use and classification, with a general use section as labeled by the manufacturer. The side/adverse effects with a reported incidence of greater than 1% are disclosed. Important drug interactions are also discussed, but not in great detail. The next area deals with contra-indications

to these drugs, and the usual dosing parameters and dental considerations are also listed. The dental considerations are unique, and dentists should find these very helpful in their practice. There are also black and white photographs of nearly all of the medications. This section does allow for a printed copy in English or in Spanish that can be given to the patients and may be very useful if they do not receive this from their pharmacy.

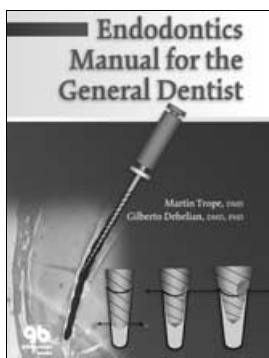
Section 5 covers anesthesia. There are 20 drugs, which may be useful in local and general anesthesia, as well as IV sedation, listed here. These drugs are discussed in a manner similar to those in Section 4.

Appendix A provides helpful information for medical diseases and conditions and is arranged in table and box form, dealing with antibiotic prophylactic recommendations for several categories of patients. Restriction guidelines for local anesthetic vasoconstrictors are also discussed, as is the dental management of patients at risk for acute adrenal insufficiency and patients taking anticoagulants, and for drug use in hepatic dysfunction and chronic renal disease patients.

Appendix B consists of clinical algorithms of nearly 50 conditions. The algorithms provide a clinically effective way to make diagnoses of these medical conditions. These algorithms have been taken from two medical texts dealing with this algorithmic approach to decision-making. These are extremely useful in making medical diagnoses and understanding the various aspects of a differential diagnosis.

The editors have succeeded in providing a text and CD that provide dental clinicians easy access to information on medical topics and their relation to dentistry. I feel that this approach is very effective as a reference text; however, this would best serve as an adjunct to other texts that deal with these topics in greater detail and with colored illustrations. Another major aspect of this text is the 950 patient education handouts in English and Spanish that allow better communication with the dental patient. A textbook of this nature, of course, would need to be updated on a regular basis and this could be done easily on the CD. I believe the editors have successfully achieved their desired purpose—to provide large arrays of easy-to-find, succinct presentations of topics needed to properly provide dental care.

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Endodontics Manual for the General Dentist

Edited by Martin Trope, DMD, Gilberto J. Debelian, DMD, PhD, Quintessence Publishing Co, Ltd., New Malden, Surrey, United Kingdom, 2005: ISBN 1085097-089-0. (70 pages; 111 radiographs, color images and illustrations; price \$68, soft cover)

The editors of this soft cover text have provided the reader with a broad-based review of endodontics for the general practitioner or non-endodontic specialist who performs endodontic therapy on a regular basis. Chapter 1 reviews the clinical definition of endodontics, explains the disease process of apical periodontitis, and advises that different treatment approaches are needed depending on the diagnosis. Vital pulp therapy and necrotic pulp therapy are briefly described with the use of photographs.

Chapter 2 reviews the chief complaint and symptoms, diagnostic tests, radiographic findings, and clinical findings of the patient. This chapter clearly explains the diagnosis of reversible pulpitis, irreversible pulpitis, and necrotic pulp using charts, illustrations, and photographs. The authors discuss the nature and history of different types of pain. They emphasize that the patient's chief complaint needs to be thoroughly evaluated and analyzed. Several diagnostic tests including cold test, hot test, electric pulp test, and percussion and palpation are described in detail. The editors also explain that radiographic findings are not considered reliable diagnostic tests.

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