

## BOOK REVIEW

# Manual of Clinical Periodontics: A Reference Manual for Diagnosis & Treatment

Francis Serio & Charles Hawley; ISBN 1-930598-82-3; Lexi-Comp Inc; 2002, \$54.95 (US Dollars)

This is a succinct and well illustrated text for the targeted reader, being the general dentist, dental student or hygienist. It is presented in an easy-to-use ring bound format with each section conveniently identified by thumb-tabs of alternating colours.

The subject matter is clinically orientated, easy to read and covers the different aspects of Periodontics in a problem-based, 'question & answer' format. The manual contains twelve chapters from diagnosis to periodontal surgery with numerous appendices in < 150 pages.

Although evidence is mentioned in some of the sections, it is not essentially an Evidence Based text. It clearly contains some of the philosophical approaches used by its North American authors, for example the justification of and the clinical execution of occlusal adjustment, as a component of initial periodontal treatment, is discussed in more detail than plaque control. It is a very practical guide for many aspects of periodontal treatment, for example: suggestions of types and doses of systemic antibiotics for the adjunctive treatment of periodontal conditions, albeit of questionable value. The reader is taken through illustrations of most of the surgical techniques of periodontal surgery, including periodontal plastic surgery, with clear indications for use and decision making.

There is a chapter on Periodontal Emergencies which would be very useful for the general dental practitioner, who is most likely to encounter these conditions. The chapter on Considerations in Implant Dentistry is brief, to the point of being simplistic, where hydroxyapatite coatings get a mention, but not transmucosal implant types. In addition, there was an interesting recommendation for routine removal of the screw retained implant superstructure (if possible) at maintenance visits, for cleaning.

There are some very useful appendices containing information on medical considerations, drug interactions, occupational risks and reference values for adults for Automated Chemistry and Haematology. Of questionable value is a comprehensive list of toothpastes and mouthwashes, complete with constituents, a guide on prescription writing as well as Insurance Coding for the Periodontal Patient, available from the American Dental Association.

**R Tucker**

*Department of Periodontology,  
Eastman Dental Institute,  
256 Grays Inn Road,  
London WC1X 8LD, UK  
E-mail: [rtucker@eastman.ucl.ac.uk](mailto:rtucker@eastman.ucl.ac.uk)*

Copyright of Oral Diseases is the property of Blackwell Publishing Limited and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.