Review of: Radiology For The Dental Professional

Joan Gibson-Howell, RDH, MSEd, EdD

Reviewed by Joan Gibson-Howell, RDH, MSEd, EdD, assistant professor, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

Radiology For The Dental Professional

Eighth Edition

Frommer HH, Stabulas-Savage JJ

Elsevier Mosby, 2005

St. Louis, Missouri

576 pages; illustrated; indexed; softcover

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$59.95

Since 1975 Dr. Frommer, BA, DDS, FACP, has consistently produced an excellent resource for dental professionals in radiology. The eighth edition of this publication is an affirmation of its usefulness and practicality. In the preface, Dr. Frommer stated he has strived to “stay true to the original mission of the book to apply basic principles to clinical practitioners.” Thirty years of publications attests to his commitment.

Improvements in new editions are expected. Therefore, there are 3 changes in this publication. One change is the expansion in text title, Radiology For The Dental Professional, which reflects a broader readership of all dental professionals. The second change is an expansion of chapters and chapter content. This change supplied additional illustrations; the rearranging of chapter information made significant improvements for all levels of radiology learners. For example, an added feature is that each chapter is deliberately organized to correlate to a one-hour lecture. For the novice or the experienced teacher, this superb feature assists in developing the quarter or semester course schedule and maintaining the credit hour/clock hour schedule. With so much information to share, this is an excellent asset. Thirdly, Dr. Frommer has added of a coauthor, Ms. Stabulas-Savage, RDH, BS, MPH, a dental hygienist. Congratulations Ms. Stabulas-Savage and Bravo Dr. Frommer! What a team-so resourceful and practical.

Each chapter begins with an outline, 1 to 3 educational objectives, and key words. The key words are also italicized within the chapter readings to further understand the term within context. In addition, a 21-page glossary at the end of the chapters helps to further define new or review terms. Whether the reader is learning or reviewing the language, techniques, and concepts, the level of reading and comprehension is appropriate. The numerous figures and procedure boxes in each chapter serve to enhance the understanding of techniques, positions, and common errors. Within chapters, common errors in exposing, processing, and interpreting is clearly delineated with sections as appearance, error and cause, resultant image, and remedy. These areas are helpful to the new learner and a quick review for the practitioner.
The chapter entitled Ionizing Radiation and Basic Principles of X-Ray Generation addressed a topic that is typically challenging to master. Yet, this chapter read like a story and removed the threat of the "over my head" feeling. In fact, it was quite enjoyable. The chapters discussing techniques included procedure boxes that specifically identified point of entry, vertical and horizontal angulation, chair position, and film position for each projection and exposure. A specific area of this procedure box called "helpful hints" provided the student and practitioner with a suggestion to enhance the radiograph or assist the patient during exposure. The text purports the paralleling technique as the method of choice because it produces accurate diagnostic images, less exposure to the patient, and is easily standardized. The figures in each chapter clearly illustrate the technique along with ancillary techniques to use as needed. A digital radiography chapter with explanations and figures provides the learner with basic information to delineate the types of digital units. I applaud the authors on presenting information in separate chapters regarding patient protection, operator protection, quality assurance, and legal considerations. For enhancements, a chapter is included regarding the temporomandibular joint and advanced imaging systems. Although the majority of the radiographs were of high quality, some lacked the image detail and contrast important to diagnosis, but were adequate to demonstrate the detail within the context of the chapter.

With the current competition in radiology texts, this publication continues to present the basic information in a unique way that enhances understanding. It can be used as the primary text or as a reference for the practitioner or teacher to learn to say and do things in different ways for the dental professional and the dental patient.
Fundamentals of Operative Dentistry: A Contemporary Approach

Third Edition

Summitt JB, Robbins JW, Schwartz RS

Quintessence Books, 2006

Hanover Parks, Illinois

599 pages; illustrated; indexed


$95.00

Fundamentals of Operative Dentistry: A Contemporary Approach is a textbook written for dental students and dental providers with current and practical concepts of prevention and management of caries as a disease and of restoration of individual teeth. The inherent theme in the textbook is that of contemporary operative dentistry. The authors have incorporated the advances in material, instruments, and dental adhesives throughout the textbook. They explain that many times in operative dentistry procedures are based on history and tradition and not necessarily by science. In the preface there is discussion on Dr. GV Black’s classic theories on operative dentistry.

The authors theorize that if the founder of modern dentistry were alive today, he would be leading the advances of new technology and innovation, and would not be clinging to concepts of the past.

This textbook covers assessment, diagnosis, and treatment planning strategies for dental caries. Pulpal considerations, instrumentation, and isolation are discussed and bonding, anterior, and posterior restoratives are presented. Special emphasis is directed at fluoride-releasing materials, bleaching, and class V restorations. Crowns, veneers, inlays, and onlays are presented along with the dental materials selections.

Several themes are presented throughout the textbook. The first is the attempt to provide a scientific basis for the concepts. In fact, when convincing evidence is not available, the textbook presents a consensus founded on a significant depth of experience and informed thought. This edition has been updated with new information based on evidence reported since the second edition.

A second theme reflected in the book is the commitment to conservative dentistry. In fact, the treatment modalities described involve the preservation of as much sound tooth structure as possible within the framework of the existing destruction and
the patient's expectations for esthetic results. As a dental hygienist, it is enlightening to see such emphasis placed in preventive operative dentistry.

References are included in each chapter. Throughout the book, there are numerous colored photographs and diagrams, some in black and white and some in color. These photographs and diagrams are outstanding! The textbook is indexed and contains figures and tables throughout the chapters. This book is easy to read and understand. The use of photographs and diagrams and accompanying descriptions make for a well-written college textbook! Although, this book is recommended for dental students and dentists, it would be a great resource for a dental hygiene faculty member teaching a dental biomaterials or clinical course.
Dental Embryology, Histology, and Anatomy


Mary Bath-Balogh
Margaret J. Fehrenbach
Elsevier Saunders, 2006
St. Louis, Missouri
403 pages, illustrated and indexed; softcover
$55.95

Dental Embryology, Histology, and Anatomy by Mary Bath-Balogh and Margaret J. Fehrenbach is a textbook on oral biology for the dental professional. The text is divided into four units: Introduction to Dental Structures, Dental Embryology, Dental Histology, and Dental Anatomy. The first unit includes recognition of intraoral and extraoral anatomical landmarks. The second unit on dental embryology begins with prenatal development and ends with tooth development and eruption. The dental histology unit covers the development of all oral tissues including oral mucosa, enamel, dentin, cementum and pulp. Finally, the dental anatomy unit covers the primary and permanent dentition, the temporomandibular joint and occlusion. Each unit is comprised of several chapters; all 20 chapters begin with objectives, an outline, and key terms. The text is divided so that each unit can stand alone or be incorporated into a varied curriculum.

The outstanding features of this book are the over 700 color photographs and illustrations. This is a noticeable improvement over the previous edition. Color images are particularly helpful in the dental histology unit featuring color photomicrographs of oral tissues. Color photomicrographs are particularly helpful because they enable the reader to more easily discern microscopic structures. Each chapter contains numerous boxes of information and tables that describe in more detail specific dental conditions. The information in these boxes not only provides interesting facts for the reader, but important relevant information that clarifies essential concepts. This edition also includes current information on the inflammatory and immune response, as well as updated information on furcations, pulp morphology, removal of third molars, and more.

Each topic is organized and covered adequately for the dental hygiene curriculum. For example, there is enough background information on the cell for students to comprehend basic cell division and reproduction, and progress to basic tissues of the oral cavity. The dental anatomy unit is also a highlight of the text. Tooth morphology is covered thoroughly, using
new photographs and diagrams to illustrate developmental disturbances and anomalies. The addition of key terms and the phonetic pronunciation of selected vocabulary words at the beginning of each chapter are extremely useful.

The use of the Evolve Resources web-site is available exclusively to textbook users. Evolve provides online access to PowerPoint slides, a test bank, case studies, updates of new clinical concepts, and supplemental study materials. The web-site is beneficial to both the instructor and student. Use of this technology is designed to enhance the presentation of material and interaction with students. A workbook and instructor's resource manual are available separately. The work- book is highly recommended for students, featuring case studies and review exercises. The instructor manual is also suggested as a helpful teaching aid that includes classroom activities, a test bank and reproducible tables from the textbook.

Finally, the level of writing is suitable for dental hygiene students. The chapters are interspersed with photos, diagrams, illustrations, radiographs and tables to divide the reading into manageable segments. This is unquestionably an essential textbook for dental hygiene students. Dental hygiene instructors will find this comprehensive textbook valuable for dental anatomy and histology instruction.

Margaret J Fehrenbach, RDH, MS

Reviewed by Margaret J. Fehrenbach, RDH, MS, dental hygiene educational consultant, Seattle, WA

Manual of Minor Oral Surgery for the General Dentist

Koerner K

Blackwell Publishing Professional, 2006

Ames, Iowa

336 pages; illustrated; indexed; softcover

ISBN: 0-81380-559-7

$119.99

The purpose of the Manual of Minor Oral Surgery for the General Dentist is to be a guide to performing common surgical procedures in the dental office. The text, written by various dentists and then edited by a published oral surgery author, is a collection of short chapters on a variety of procedures. Since it is in its first edition, it can be forgiven for its sometimes folksy use of "in our office..." and "a good hygienist should..." throughout the text. Many chapters have an overlap of information, which can be expected in such a collection, and some have a difficulty in organization of background material, such as the chapter on sedation. However, the overall language is easily read by the dental practitioner. Each chapter has references that could be read for more information since each is a landmark article on the subject. Finally, the text emphasizes the patient and the associated responsibility of the practitioner to meet the needs of that patient.

The information presented is up to date and includes recent information on oral cancer diagnostic procedures, blood pressure concerns, and HIPPA basics. However, the chapter on patient evaluation should consider the use of the ASA Physical Classification system to better inform the reader when discussing patient risk.

The use of clear clinical photographs and useful diagrams of the surgical procedures, with condensed notes for each common surgical procedure (most step-by-step), really helps to enlighten the dental practitioner. The outstanding chapter on surgical crown lengthening is sure to aid the dental hygienist in understanding this important procedure for pocket maintenance. As an example, it rightly emphasizes the topical use of CHX postoperatively in the localized area, noting the complications of stain and calculus formation when used as a general rinse.

In addition, the extensive chapters on third molar extraction and endodontic surgery are a must read for informing patients who need these procedures. Especially noted were the indications discussed for the need for third molar extraction. The chapter on the evaluation and treatment of oral lesions is a good review for the practicing dental hygienist.

The information presented on sedation demonstrates the care required for its use and may be a good topic for in-office discussion. So, too, are the techniques discussed on the management on perioperative bleeding, which is a top continuing
concern for most dental practices that perform minor surgical procedures on a daily basis. It includes a discussion of the over-the-counter herbs that are related to an increased risk of bleeding by the patient.

The chapter on Third World Dentistry is interesting and may be useful for those dental hygienists looking to make a difference worldwide.

This text would be a great addition to the reading library of the practicing dental hygienist and/or dental hygiene school. Also, it would be a text that one could strongly recommend to the general dentists because it more than succeeds in its goal as a manual for common oral surgical procedures.