

Book Reviews

Review of: Applied Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist, 5th Edition

Elena Bablenis Haveles
Mosby Elsevier, 2007
St Louis, Missouri
537 pages, indexed, illustrated, soft cover
ISBN 978-0-323-04874-3
Cost: 64.95

Reviewed by Ruth Fearing Tornwall, RDH, MS Associate Professor at the Lamar Institute of Technology in Beaumont, Texas

Applied Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist is a well-organized comprehensive text on pharmacology directed towards dental hygiene students and dental hygienists. The new text follows the same format as its previous editions by founding author, Dr. Barbara Requa-Clark. The primary goal of the book remains to “produce safe and effective dental practitioners who will continue to learn for their lifetimes.” The current author states that as “pharmacology is an ever changing science with new drugs being found and synthesized, with new effects for old drugs being identified, and with new diseases and drugs for their treatment being studied,” this text has been updated with 3 objectives in mind:

1. Achieve an understanding of the need and importance of obtaining and using appropriate reference material
2. Develop the ability to find the necessary information about drugs, and
3. Develop the ability to apply that information to clinical dental patients.

The text includes 26 chapters which are divided into 4 parts: General Principles, Drugs Used In Dentistry, Drugs That May Alter Dental Treatment, and Special Situations.

General Principles includes chapters which cover information sources, drug names, federal regulatory agencies, drug action and handling, adverse reactions, and prescription writing. These chapters set the foundation for study of the different classes of drugs in the following chapters.

Drugs Used In Dentistry includes chapters on the autonomic drugs, nonopioid analgesics, opioid analgesics, antiinfective agents, antifungal and antiviral agents, local anesthetics, antianxiety agents, general anesthetics,

vitamins and minerals, and oral conditions and their treatment. The drugs which might be used in the course of treatment of the patient are included in this part. The information provided in these chapters are very comprehensive and provides the reader with the technical and factual information for the use of these drugs.

Drugs That May Alter Dental Treatment includes chapters on cardiovascular drugs, anticonvulsants, psychotherapeutic agents, autocoids, and antihistamines, adrenocorticosteroids, other hormones such as thyroid, pancreatic, and sex hormones, antineoplastic drugs, and respiratory and gastrointestinal drugs. This part includes drugs which may affect the treatment procedures and the management of the patient by the dental hygienist.

Special Situations includes chapters which cover information on emergency drugs, pregnancy and breast feeding, drug interactions, and drug abuse. These chapters include unique situations which could change treatment of that patient.

All drug groups are discussed using a similar format which includes the group’s indications (what the drugs are used for), the pharmacokinetics (how the body handles the drugs), the pharmacologic effect’s (what the drugs do), adverse reactions to the drug (inappropriate effects), drug interactions (how the drugs interact with other drugs in the body), and the dosage of the drugs. This format helps to standardize the information presented.

Each chapter begins with an outline which allows the learner to look at the topics to be covered. The chapters include tables and figures to add support to the information presented, and marginal notes in boxes to identify key concepts. There are also 2 approaches to learn and understand new vocabulary words. The first time a glossary word appears in the text it is printed in bold and included in the glossary with a definition. The second way to understand new words is through the medical terminology section in the appendix which looks at words by dividing them into their stem parts.

Pronunciations for common drug names are also included in the chapters. Review questions are included at the end of each chapter.

Appendixes for the text include the top 200 drugs (2005), medical acronyms, medical terminology, oral manifestations including xerostomia and taste alteration, and natural and herbal products. The “what if” appendix addresses a number of common patient-related questions the dental practitioner may come across in day to day practice. “Decision trees” are then used to

guide the practitioner in evaluating the clinical situations quickly and making good treatment decision. "What if" topics include questions related to allergy management, drugs safe to use in pregnancy, antibiotics for joint replacement and others.

Overall, the text is effective in its presentation of sometimes difficult information. Many points have been clarified from the older edition. However, there are some areas in which the text could use some improvements. The text does not use the latest textbook design and could benefit in this area. Suggestions might include a more colorful presentation of the diagrams, charts, and boxes to help appeal to the visual learner. More highlighting within the chapters would also help. These features would also assist in making the text more readable.

Although the questions at the end of the chapter are identified as "clinical skills assessment", they cannot be accurately described as clinical applications. They merely question the reader regarding the information presented in the chapter. Clinical cases and/or dental hygiene treatment considerations would also be a welcome addition to the text.

The text does have an instructor's resource manual and companion website. The resource manual does include critical thinking questions and clinical case histories to be used in the classroom. The website also includes an image collection and a test bank.

Including some of these suggestions into the text in the future might make the information more manageable and fascinating to study and help to stimulate learning.

Review of: Dental Management of the Medically Compromised Patient

Little, J.W., Falace, D.A., Miller, C.S. & Rhodus, N.L.

Mosby Elsevier, 2008

St Louis, Mo.

628 pages, indexed, soft cover

ISBN 13: 978-0-323-04535-3

Cost: \$ 71.95

Reviewed by Lisa Shaw, RDH MS, Residential Health Care Coordinator/Preventive Dentistry Grant Coordinator at Faxton-St. Luke's Health care, James M. Rozanski General Practice Residency Program, Utica, New York

In Sol Silverman Jr.'s forward of this text makes note of the ever-growing population of individuals with special needs. This population has increased by the escalating number of individuals over the age of 65, and the morbidity associated with longevity, as

well as by the now recognized role that oral health plays in systemic disease and the oral complications associated with those diseases and their treatments. Treatment of individuals who are medically compromised will be the job of all practitioners, not just specialists, or those working in special settings. Hence, a book of this nature is invaluable to any practitioner. The author's purpose is "to give the dental provider an up-to-date, concise, factual reference describing the dental management of patients with selected medical problems."

Thirty chapters under 10 headings cover cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, endocrine/metabolic, immunologic, hematologic/oncologic, and neurologic/behavioral/psychiatric diseases, as well as evaluation/risk assessment and the geriatric patient. Appendices cover medical emergencies, infection control, therapeutic management of oral lesions, drug interactions, and alternative and complementary drugs. Also offered is a student learning resource web link. Each chapter is divided into, but not limited to, areas that include general description/definition, epidemiology, clinical presentations, medical management, and dental management of a particular disease or disorder. Chapters are also supplemented with numerous colored photographs and figures, as well as tables, boxes, and graphs that facilitate the understanding of the material presented in the text.

An important feature of this text is the 62 page Dental Management: A Summary. The summary is a table that includes the following headings: Potential Problems Related to Dental Care, Oral Manifestations, Prevention of Problems, and Treatment Planning Modifications. Each disorder or disease listed under these headings is also cross-referenced to its chapter. This table allows the practitioner to quickly ascertain critical information about conditions that may impact dental treatment and well as oral the complications of those conditions.

This text is challenging. Beyond the sheer breadth of information, there were recommendations that immediately stood out as being different from other popular texts. Two in particular where the recommendations that individuals with past myocardial infarctions of greater than 1 month who present as an intermediate risk, may have elective dental treatment and that no antibiotic prophylaxis is required for patients with intravascular catheters. The reference regarding the later recommendation arises from Guidelines For The Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, MWR Recomm Rep 2002. When one accesses the reference report, one finds that it clearly stated in its heading regarding systemic antibiotic prophylaxis that "No studies have demonstrated that oral or parenteral antibacterial or antifungal drugs might reduce the incidence of CRBSI [catheter-

related bloodstream infections] among adults.” That said, this text might behoove the reader to explore areas that present differing recommendations.

This is an impressive text that requires a real commitment by the reader. It is, however, one that should be a part of any dental and medical practitioner’s armamentarium. While it may appear daunting to the new student, it provides multiple levels for the reader to access information so that they are not overwhelmed by its comprehensive nature.

Review of Oral Pathology: Clinical Pathologic Correlations

**Regezi JA, Sciubba, JJ, and Jordan RCK,
WB Saunders Elsevier,
St. Louis, 2008, illustrated, indexed,
418 pages (with attached CD-ROM),
ISBN-10: 1416045708
ISBN-13: 978-1416045700
\$115.00**

Reviewed by Margaret J. Fehrenbach, RDH, MS, a dental hygiene educational consultant and dental science technical writer, in Seattle, WA. Her website is www.dhed.net

The opening portion of the book, a clinical overview, is similar to an atlas of oral pathology, dividing orofacial lesion information into tables according to the clinical appearance (white lesions, red lesions, ulcerated lesions, etc.), along with some photographs of common lesions. This part of the book makes it easy to quickly identify and diagnose oral disease presentations that present in the dental setting. The rest of the book has expanded text about each lesion, again divided by clinical appearance. A paragraph about the differential diagnosis of each lesion is also included. A chapter on common skin lesions of the head and neck is a desired addition to most oral pathology texts.

One unique feature is additional index card-like tables in this discussion portion for quick review. With many of the lesions there is a corresponding histological view, which adds to the overall understanding of the lesion. However, the information on each lesion is not as expansive as needed for a basic course in oral pathology for a dental hygienist student.

This latest edition of the book has updated clear color photographs of even the rarest lesions, along with recent information on disease etiology and treatment. The areas of the discussion of pain, xerostomia, and halitosis are significantly expanded, and discussions of the molecular basis of cancers reflect the rapid advances in molecular medicine. However, using this type of

format, squamous cell carcinoma is noted under ulcerations, which is not always the case clinically. Missing is the discussion of the newest methods of early detection of oral cancer in the clinical setting and there is only limited information on HPV and its involvement in oral cancer.

References are somewhat current. A CD-ROM also comes with the text with case studies and practice questions that help with the study of the subject. An Elsevier Evolve site has additional resources for the student and instructor, as well as all the images.

Due to limited information on each lesion, the book would be more useful as a reference book in any dental clinic setting; far superior than any atlas of oral pathology. When confronted with an unknown lesion, the clinician could easily review the presented information to produce a dental hygiene diagnosis.

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our profession. The first piece is written by Drs. Ann Spolarich and Jane Forrest on utilization of the National Dental Hygiene Research Agenda.

Change is here for 2009. Whether you are reading the Journal in print or online, keep reading your professional journal. The staff at ADHA are committed to bringing you the highest quality scientific publication possible. It is YOUR journal.

Have a wonderful 2009!

Sincerely,

Rebecca Wilder, BSDH, MS
Editor in Chief: *Journal of Dental Hygiene*

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cation and can be treated by over-the-counter saliva substitutes. On the other hand, if oral candidiasis is left untreated, it could lead to acute pseudomembranous candidiasis (thrush), erythematous lesions (denture stomatitis), or angular cheilitis.

However, primary care physicians can help patients by assessing risk, recognizing versus abnormal changes of aging, performing a focus oral examination, and referring patients to a dentist, if needed.

Writers also add that patients might benefit from different types of oral health aids. They recommend electric toothbrushes, manual toothbrushes with wide-handle grips, and floss-holding devices. This may also benefit patients with chronic, disabling medical conditions such as arthritis and neurologic impairment.

Upfront was prepared by Eugenia Jefferson