

Book Review

Removable Partial Dentures. Nicholas J A Jepson. Hardback, 148 pages, 211 illustrations. Published July 2004. ISBN 1-85097-075-0. Price £28

There is now a plethora of textbooks on removable prosthodontics that are aimed at the general dental practitioner. This is another book along that line, but nevertheless is a useful addition. This book is principally a review of factors affecting the provision of removable partial dentures and helpful hints on clinical practice. First impressions reveal a high quality publication. Although compact it contains a wealth of information within it and to this end is very reasonably priced. This book although aimed at the general dental practitioner will also be of value to the undergraduate dental student. It is written in an informal style and has brought together information not otherwise readily available in a single text.

The book is in 11 chapters and begins with a review of the rationale behind, and indications for, the provision of partial dentures. The author presents a balanced view with the inclusion of the shortened dental arch concept. The third chapter is a systematic and logical approach to partial denture design. Individual components of the denture are discussed in more detail in chapters 4 and 5. The rather dry but important subject of surveying is covered very nicely in chapter 6. The inclusion of Transitional Dentures as a separate chapter somewhat breaks the flow of the book although important information is contained within it.

The author, having set the scene for the theory behind the provision of partial dentures, moves onto the clinical aspects in more detail. The remaining 4 chapters take the reader through the initial consultation visits where information is gathered through denture design, preparation of the mouth and finally the clinical stages involved in the provision of the prostheses. The book is lavishly illustrated with clinical colour photographs, the standard of which is on the whole excellent. There are however minor errors with some legends which will require correction in the second edition. A welcome inclusion at the end of each chapter is "key points" which provide a useful summary for those simply wanting to flick through the book.

The aims of the book are clearly stated in the preface and in my opinion the author has achieved what he set out to do. The market place for books on removable prosthodontics is rather crowded but this is one to seriously consider. This "How to" book is one to recommend for both the general dental practitioner and the dental undergraduate.

Professor Daryll Jagger