

Bone Biology, Harvesting, & Grafting for Dental Implants: Rationale and Clinical Applications, Arun K. Garg, DMD. Chicago: Quintessence Publishing Co Inc, 2004, 279 pages. \$158 US.

This book has been published with crisp full-color photography, drawings, and tables. It is divided into a preface and 4 parts: Bone Biology, Bone Harvesting, Bone Grafting, and Future Directions. Each part is further divided into chapters.

The preface describes the aim of the text and acknowledgements. In writing this book, Dr Garg hopes "to arm the clinician with a sufficient understanding of bone and bone grafting to be able to make decisions that will benefit individual patients, without overwhelming him or her with information that is not directly relevant to that purpose."

Part I, Bone Biology (pages 3 to 117), discusses basic bone physiology, graft materials, membranes, and ridge preservation. This part includes a discussion of basic physiologic processes, regeneration, and augmentation. The tables and photographs are well done and well organized to give the reader a clear explana-

tion of the topic. The tables that delineate most graft materials and membranes organize the available products into defining categories, explaining the characteristics, recommended use, indications, and contraindications and costs for each. Dr Garg writes about virtually every bone graft product, evaluating several properties such as the type of regeneration encouraged, resorption rate, and longevity.

Part II, Bone Harvesting (pages 121 to 168), covers harvesting autologous bone from the ramus, mandibular symphysis, and tibia. This section discusses advantages and contraindications, anatomy, technique, graft handling, complications, and postsurgery care. Again, the photographs and tables are well done and clear. The tables in this part of the book list potential complications for each harvest site, describing causes and preventions for each complication.

Part III, Bone Grafting (pages 171 to 250), reviews grafting the maxillary sinus, anterior maxillary ridge, and subnasal elevation. Coverage is given to anatomy, evaluating tissues for grafting, technique, postoperative considerations, and clinical cases.

The section on ridge expansion and splitting is not well covered and, in fact, is virtually omitted. This topic may have been deemed by the author as beyond the scope of the text.

Part IV, Future Directions (pages 253 to 271), considers research and directions of platelet-rich plasma, growth factors, and bone morphogens and suggests that autologous bone may become obsolete.

This well-written, edifying volume is a concise and clear exposition of bone grafting as it pertains to dental implantology. It contains contemporary information and organizes it into a clear and readable format. It covers the use of many commercial products in a reasonable and understandable perspective for use. This perspective is the strength of the text. It demonstrates the pervasive knowledge and experience of Dr Garg in this area. Abundant and appropriate references appear at the end of each chapter. This book should be recommended reading for the implant surgeon. Dr Garg has certainly fulfilled his aim in writing this book.

—Dennis Flanagan, DDS