**Book Reviews**

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**Hypodontia: A Team Approach to Management (2010)**  
Authors: John A. Hobkirk, Daljit S. Gill, Steven P. Jones, Kenneth W. Hemmings, G. Streven Bassi, Amanda L. O’Donnell, Jane R. Goodman  
Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell  
Price: £82.50  
Pages: 208

‘Hypodontia: A Team Approach to Management’ is targeted at final year dental students, graduate students of a large number of dental specialties, and general dental practitioners with an interest in management of hypodontia.

The book is 187 pages in length and is divided into 3 parts, with 3 sub-sections each. Tables emphasize key points and the work is written in a reader-friendly manner. Clinical images, radiographs, and drawings are used to illustrate the text.

The first part of the book gives a good overall background of the topic and relevant definitions (e.g. prevalence, aetiology) as well as specific features and principles of care are reviewed. Although the book discusses genes that have been implicated in hypodontia, it may have been useful to acknowledge that this is a fast moving field and that more up to date references may become available in due course.

The book also highlights and explains the roles of the various members of a multidisciplinary hypodontia team, emphasizing the importance of ‘joined up’ thinking, which benefits patients who are seen in such a setting.

The book also illustrates that treatment of hypodontia can be a protracted process and that management sometimes begins in the primary dentition. Broad management options are nicely laid out in three separate stages of the dentition: primary/early mixed, late mixed/early permanent, and the established dentition, with clear management techniques and broad objectives. Due to this reader-friendly format there is some repetition of information, which the authors acknowledge.

In summary, this book gives a good overview of the principles of multidisciplinary team management of patients affected by hypodontia. It is a good reference for anyone with an interest in hypodontia and it should be included in all teaching hospital libraries.

Sarabjit Nandhra

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**MCQs in Orthodontics, with Explanatory Answers and References (2012)**  
Main Author: Jitendra Sharan  
Co-authors: Shobha Tandon, Ashima Valiathan, Akhter Hussain  
Edition: 1st Edition  
Publisher: Paras Medical publisher, Hyderabad, India  
Price: 650 Indian Rupees (Approximately €9)  
Pages: 654

The authors intended this book to serve as a preparatory text for undergraduate and postgraduate examinations in orthodontics. The book contains 654 pages and is divided into 26, well-sequenced chapters. It is published in paperback format, and the text is supplemented with monochromatic diagrams, images of radiographs, and clinical photographs.

There are numerous photographs of poor resolution, which is rather disappointing. The layout and small font size do not help with readability.

The reader is directed to refer to a list of specific textbooks before tackling the MCQs. All questions have explanatory answers, with references from those books. However,
at times the readers are directed to other questions to find the explanation (e.g. chapter 2, questions 91 and 92). Some orthodontic texts used in the book may not be considered mainstream and there also appears to be a lack of evidence from contemporary peer-reviewed journals.

Overall, it is clear that a vast amount of work has been put into the preparation of this book, which is extensive and covers almost every facet of theoretical and clinical orthodontics. This detailed approach appears excessive for undergraduate dental students, but the text may serve as a useful preparation for postgraduate examinations, as indicated by the authors.

Golfam Khoshkhounajad

Editors: Friedy Luther, Zararna Nelson-Moon
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Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell, West Sussex, UK
Price: $75.99
ISBN: 978-1444330083
Pages: 198

This book provides extensive practical information on how to design, fit, adjust, maintain, and troubleshoot retainers and removable orthodontic appliances. It has concise step-by-step instructions alongside clear illustrations for key areas of clinical orthodontic practice. Furthermore, there is an extensive well-illustrated chapter, using clinical scenarios, where readers can test their knowledge and understanding of the appropriateness of upper removable appliances.

The authors describe a wide variety of mainly upper removable appliances and their modifications to treat malocclusions and I found it appropriate that it was pointed out that, in modern orthodontics, fixed appliances are often a better choice for treatment and that removable appliances should sometimes not be used.

The information concerning functional appliances is limited, apart from the Twin Block and its modifications, which are described in detail. This book would, in my opinion, have benefitted from the description of appliances that allow for guided eruption. Such appliances are widely used in Scandinavian countries for early interceptive treatment of crowding, increased overjet, deep bite, crossbite, and distal occlusion.

The last chapter about vacuum or pressure formed active appliances (VFAA) was very welcome, with its information and criticism of their commercial applications, which seems to have increased their popularity with patients and practitioners alike. VFAAs are often marketed mainly to general practitioners who often have not had orthodontic training at specialist level but are keen on aesthetic dentistry. As the authors highlighted, despite of several commercially suggested treatment indications, there appear to be significant limitations to the tooth movement that can be achieved with VFAAs.

As a whole, this book is well organized, clear, and easy to read. The list of references appears limited, but is understandable, give the practical nature of the book. This work will serve as a good tool for dental students, general dental practitioners, orthodontic students, and therapists teaching the basis of orthodontic retainers and removable appliances. Even if an orthodontist is likely to be familiar with most of the issues described in this book, it still offers ample opportunity to explore various issues regarding orthodontic retainers and removable appliances in detail. I also recommend this book to dental technicians as an additional text for their training program.

Riitta Pahkala