

# Book Review

**Practical Implant Dentistry (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Ashok Sethi. Quintessence Publishing. 396 pages, 1208 mostly colour illustrations. USBN 978-1-85097-223-5. Hardback £140.00**

Having missed out on the very popular first edition of 'Practical Implant Dentistry', I was particularly pleased when asked to review the newly published second edition. The current edition, predominantly aims to enhance the readers' knowledge of the developments in implant planning and therapy with a view of the recent advances in digitisation techniques and CAD/CAM technology; in addition to presenting longer-term follow-up for the cases presented in the first edition.

The field of implant dentistry continues to expand, with forever increasing needs, demands and requirements from patients. As such, there are also increasing demands for the clinician to keep up to date with their clinical knowledge, with an understanding of the literature and research, to enable correct diagnosis and appropriately advise and manage their patients.

This textbook, which is very well presented in an easy to read format is divided into three main sections. These guide the reader through a logical pre-operative assessment and diagnostic process, to surgical implant placement and thereafter the restorative/ prosthodontic stages particularly for the Ankylos™ implant system. The third section outlines augmentation techniques for especially compromised cases. It is reassuring to see that the experienced authors refer to underpinning quotations at the beginning of each of the three main sections of the book suggesting their personal ethics and ethos.

The book is hard backed, 396 pages long, and includes a short bibliography. It is well referenced with classical and up to date literature, albeit some references are of non-English language. The illustrations are of a high quality with the cases presented well in a logical manner. Additionally, flow charts within each section help to re-emphasize and clarify the important decision making processes.

In more detail, chapters 1-6 (section one) of the book, and are dedicated to pre-operative patient assessment. The fundamentals of patient selection and treatment philosophy are discussed in addition to overall medical evaluation and patient management. Additional diagnostic procedures from plain radiographs, to ridge mapping and digital imaging are well explained. The anatomical variations chapter describes the classifications of bone loss well, especially with regard to the clinical implications.

Chapters 7-11 (section two), explores topics under the heading of implant placement and prosthodontics. It is within these chapters that the timing for implant placement is considered, including whether immediate or a delayed approaches should be adopted. In addition, current loading protocols are presented. Particular emphasis though the chapters is placed on safe and predictable procedures through careful pre-operative assessment, with useful checklists also identified to help to guide the operator.

Throughout the second section, a range of clinical cases reiterate the stages of treatment for the differing protocols. Implant placement surgery, abutment connection surgery and soft tissue manipulation techniques are presented with detailed clinical photographs and thereafter the prosthodontic stages. Useful clinical tips and techniques are also recommended throughout. Although this section is well presented, prior knowledge is required of general surgical protocols in addition to restorative techniques, and as mentioned, the cases are solely limited to the Ankylos™ system.

The final section includes chapters 11-17 (section three) and covers the subject of augmentation techniques. The well-structured chapters present a whole multitude of options available for the compromised patient with a limited availability of hard and soft tissue where implants are to be provided. I found this section of the book particularly informative with the chapters clearly presented with a good degree of evidence base. Techniques described include bone expansion techniques, localised and extensive onlay grafting techniques, open and closed sinus lift procedures, in addition to the contentious topic of mandibular nerve repositioning. Each technique is outlined and described in a logical manner with good use of illustrations and clinical photographs and case reports. The final chapter is an overview of a variety of techniques to deal with soft tissue defects and includes frenectomy and vestibuloplasty procedures, free gingival grafts, subepithelial connective tissue grafts in addition to pedicle flaps.

I would suggest that the book is an ideal purchase for dentists embarking on training in dental implantology and can act as a good foundation textbook. Equally practitioners and specialists wishing to further advance their knowledge on a variety of advanced techniques will also not be disappointed. I will certainly be reading the book again and utilizing it as a valuable resource.

*Mr Matthew Garnett  
School of Dental Sciences  
Newcastle University*