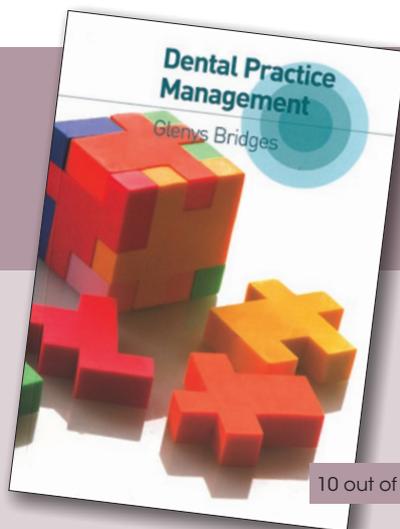


Books *beautiful* books

If you would like to be a *Vital* book reviewer or submit a publication for review, contact the Editor, Kate Maynard, by emailing k.maynard@nature.com.

TITLE: Dental practice management
AUTHOR: Glenys Bridges
PUBLISHER: Stephen Hancocks Ltd
PRICE: £27.50
ISBN: 9780956566812



D*ental practice management* could either be read cover to cover or used as a reference tool for managers. The book is well written and easy to understand. It consists of 130 pages and a glossary of terms.

The book's contents match well with the framework that makes up the BTEC Level 4 Diploma in Dental Practice Management syllabus. There are seven chapters in all, beginning with and ranging from: defining practice management, managing and maintaining quality service provision, through to financial management, marketing, team development and performance.

I would strongly recommend this book to any manager in a primary care setting who is responsible for all aspects of practice management; this book provides excellent referencing material. For those managers

who are responsible for market initiative and project management this book provides excellent guidance in initiation, research, design, planning, implementation, audit and evaluation. It explains many applicable techniques such as PESTLE, SWOT and SMART.

I particularly enjoyed the chapter on quality systems. I found this particularly beneficial in light of CQC requirements; this chapter links nicely with Outcome 16 – Quality assessing service provisions and also assists in creating policies for the practice.

The chapter on ongoing team development was inspirational and a subject I have great enthusiasm for. I have implemented techniques and systems learnt from this book in my practices, in particular a training matrix that links in with CPD and CQC requirements.

‘I have implemented techniques and systems learnt from this book in my practices’

I would recommend this book to all forward thinking practice managers and those currently studying for the BTEC Level 4 Diploma in Dental Practice Management; if this book had been published when I was studying for the Cert DPM it would have been invaluable. Overall 10 out of 10!

Claire Deegan RDN, Cert DPM



TITLE: Nursing & Health: Dental Nursing Survival Guide
AUTHOR: M. Miller
PUBLISHER: Pearson
PRICE: £5.99
ISBN: 9780273750192

As this was my first medical textbook review I was quite excited and at first glance the book looks like all you need for quick reference. A handy pocket size with wipe-clean pages, just the ticket! However, the print is quite small even for my bespectacled eyes.

The concept is a great idea and it must have been difficult to know at what point to draw the line. Too much information and you've got yourself a bulky textbook; too little and you haven't included enough important facts.

It definitely contains the day to day fundamentals but I felt some topics could have been expanded a little more which would have given the guide better depth. It could have been enlarged to A5 size, which would have provided

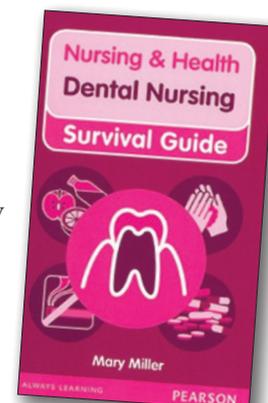
a lot more information yet still small enough to go in the pocket of most dental tunics.

A mention should be given to the diagrams. Because the book is quite small some of the labelling gets lost and may cause a bit of confusion, especially if you are trying to take a crafty glimpse!

‘My Achilles’ heel has always been eruption dates so I shall certainly keep those pages open!’

As with so many other aspects of life, medicine continues to march on and as I write this the techniques for basic life support are being reviewed. The author does indeed state that it is wise to use up to date guidelines but it might have been better to have left out a medical emergencies section completely and perhaps devoted those pages to another topic or as I mentioned earlier, expanded.

I know it may sound like I am being overly critical but I genuinely like the idea; handbooks for quick reference are extremely useful. My Achilles' heel has always been eruption dates so I shall certainly keep those pages open!



*Steph Horner
Dental Nurse/Decon Lead*

