

PRICHARD

THE DIAGNOSIS  
AND TREATMENT OF  
PERIODONTAL DISEASE  
IN GENERAL  
DENTAL PRACTICE

# THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE

John F. Prichard, D.D.S.

1979

W. B. SAUNDERS COMPANY

Philadelphia • London • Toronto

W. B. Saunders Company: West Washington Square  
Philadelphia, PA 19105  
1 St. Anne's Road  
Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 3UN, England  
1 Goldthorne Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario M8Z 5T9, Canada

**Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data**

Prichard, John F.

The diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease.

Includes also contributions by other authors.

1. Periodontics. I. Title. [DNLM: 1. Periodontal diseases—  
Diagnosis. 2. Periodontal diseases—Therapy. WU240  
D536]

RK361.P743 617.6'32 76-58605

ISBN 0-7216-7362-7

The Diagnosis and Treatment of  
Periodontal Disease

ISBN 0-7216-7362-7

© 1979 by W. B. Saunders Company. Copyright under the International Copyright Union. All rights reserved. This book is protected by copyright. No part of it may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher. Made in the United States of America. Press of W. B. Saunders Company. Library of Congress catalog card number 76-58605.

Last digit is the print number: 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

*To My Grandchildren,  
Missy and Justin*

# CONTRIBUTORS

WILLIAM F. AMMONS, JR., D.D.S., M.S.D. Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of Periodontics, University of Washington School of Dentistry; Member, Medical Staff, University Hospital; Consultant, Children's Orthopedic Hospital; Private practice of Periodontics, Seattle, Washington

*Root Resection in Periodontal Therapy; Mucogingival Surgery*

NEIL BASARABA, D.D.S., M.S.D., F.A.C.D. Private practice of Periodontics, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

*Prognosis*

MARC B. COOPER, D.D.S., M.S.D. Assistant Professor, University of Washington School of Dentistry, Seattle, Washington; Private practice of Periodontics, Bellevue, Washington

*Minor Tooth Movement in the Management of the Periodontal Patient*

RAYMOND Z. DARAKJIAN, D.D.S. Associate Professor, Columbia University School of Dental and Oral Surgery; Staff, Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, New York, New York

*Management of Acute Infections*

WALTER J. DEMER, D.D.S. Professor, Department of Prosthodontics, Georgetown University School of Dentistry; Consultant to Central Dental Laboratory; Guest Lecturer, Veterans Administration Dental Training Center, Washington, D.C.

*Removable Prostheses for the Periodontal Patient*

GORDON L. DOUGLASS, D.D.S. Private practice of Periodontics, Sacramento, California

*Bacterial Plaque and Methods of Control*

J. E. FORD, D.D.S. Private practice of Periodontics, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

*Gingival Surgery*

ROBERT GOTTSEGEN, D.D.S. Professor of Dentistry and Director, Division of Periodontics and Postgraduate Periodontics, Columbia University School of Dental and Oral Surgery, New York, New York

*Management of Acute Infections*

PATRICK C. HAGGERTY, D.D.S., M.Sc.D. Assistant Professor, Youngstown State University School of Dental Hygiene; Periodontal Consultant, Youngstown Hospital Association; Private practice of Periodontics, Youngstown, Ohio

*Implants in the Management of Bony Defects*

ROBERT LEE JOHNSON, D.D.S. Private practice of Periodontics, Lubbock, Texas

*The Art of Referring Patients; Osseous Surgery in Periodontal Therapy*

DONALD M. KEENE, D.D.S. Private practice of Periodontics, Daytona Beach, Florida

*Dental Implants in Comprehensive Periodontal Therapy*

- MATTHEW KESSLER, D.D.S. Clinical Associate Professor of Periodontics, University of Maryland College of Dentistry, Baltimore, Maryland; Visiting Lecturer in Orthodontics, Howard University College of Dentistry, Washington, D.C.; Private practice of Periodontics, Hillcrest Heights, Maryland  
*Temporary Splinting*
- J. GARY MAYNARD, JR., D.D.S. Clinical Professor, Department of Periodontics, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry; Attending in Periodontics, Retreat Hospital; Private practice of Periodontics, Richmond, Virginia  
*Attached Gingiva and Its Clinical Significance; The Relationship of Restorative Dentistry to Periodontics*
- DOUGLAS A. MEINIG, D.D.S. Lecturer in Dentistry, Northwestern University Dental School, Chicago, Illinois; Senior Attending Staff, Evanston Hospital, Evanston, Illinois  
*The Detection and Removal of Calculus in Periodontal Therapy*
- WYN MURDOCK, R.D.H. Hygienist in private practice of Periodontics, Fort Worth, Texas  
*Periodic Oral Prophylaxis*
- JOHN M. NABERS, D.D.S. Consultant in Periodontics, University of Tennessee College of Dentistry, Memphis, Tennessee; Wilford Hall U.S.A.F. Hospital, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas; Private practice of Periodontics, Wichita Falls, Texas  
*Periodontal Surgery in the Dental Office*
- B. M. PENNEL, M.S., D.D.S. Professor, Medical College of Georgia School of Dentistry, Augusta, Georgia  
*Occlusal Adjustment in Management of the Periodontal Patient*
- JOHN F. PRICHARD, D.D.S. Private practice of Periodontics, Fort Worth, Texas  
*Introduction and Orientation; Roentgenographic Examination; Interpretation of Roentgenographs; Diagnosis; Combined Periodontal-Pulpal Problems; Treatment Planning; Gingival Surgery; Management of Intrabony Defects; Periodic Oral Prophylaxis; Iatrogenic Dental Disorders*
- EDWIN S. ROSENBERG, B.D.S., H. Dip. Dent. Clinical Director, Graduate and Postdoctoral Periodontics and Periodontal Prosthesis, and Associate Professor, Department of Periodontics, University of Pennsylvania; Clinical Assistant Professor, Medical College of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
*Diagnosis*
- HERBERT SELIPSKY, B.D.S., H.D.D., M.S.D. Associate Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Periodontics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington  
*The Flap Approach in Periodontal Surgery*
- PETER SIMON, D.D.S. Private practice of Endodontics, Fort Worth, Texas  
*Combined Periodontal-Pulpal Problems*
- S. LAWRENCE SIMON, D.D.S. Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Periodontics, New York University College of Dentistry at the Brookdale Dental Center, New York, New York; Adjunct Attending Periodontist, Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center, Bronx, New York  
*The Etiology and Pathogenesis of Periodontal Disease*
- S. SIGMUND STAHL, M.S., D.D.S. Professor and Chairman, Department of Periodontology, New York University College of Dentistry; Attending in Periodontics, University Hospital; Consultant in Periodontics, Veterans Administration Hospital, New York, New York  
*The Etiology and Diagnosis of Periodontal Disease*

HAROLD C. STERNLICHT, D.D.S., Ph.D. Adjunct Associate Professor of Pathology, University of Texas Dental Branch; Attending, St. Luke's Presbyterian Hospital and Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, Texas

*An Evaluation of Periodontal Therapy*

LEONARD S. TIBBETTS, JR., D.D.S., M.S.D. Civilian Consultant in Periodontics, Wilford Hall U.S.A.F. Hospital, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas; Active Staff, Arlington Community Hospital, Arlington, Texas

*Clinical Oral Examination*

RICHARD D. WILSON, D.D.S. Associate Clinical Professor and Director of Periodontal Prosthesis, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry; Private practice of Periodontics, Richmond, Virginia

*Attached Gingiva and Its Clinical Significance; The Relationship of Restorative Dentistry to Periodontics*

# PREFACE

The object of this book is to aid the clinician in private practice with the diagnosis and treatment of problems affecting the periodontium. Some aspects of traditional examination and treatment procedures are questioned and more practical approaches are discussed. Treatment techniques described include both the practical and the exotic in modern periodontics.

Periodontists are currently in the process of a critical reappraisal of all therapeutic procedures. Reduction of pocket depth is a major objective of periodontal treatment, and the techniques used for pocket reduction are presented in detail in the various chapters. It can be predicted, however, that pocket reduction as an objective of treatment will become secondary to efforts to maintain the gingival margin as near the cementoenamel junction as possible. In the future, treatment will be aimed at management and prevention of infectious disease instead of at repair of damage as it has been in the past. Such an approach has been anticipated in the preparation of this book.

I wish to express appreciation to many people for assistance in the preparation of this book. I especially appreciate my coauthors, who have contributed excellent chapters and have graciously accepted editorial changes.

I am indebted particularly to Janet Majerus for expert editorial assistance. I owe special thanks to Nelda Martin and Mignon Bandy, who carefully typed and retyped the manuscript through its many revisions. I also gratefully acknowledge the enthusiastic support of my office staff: Lucille Argabright, secretary; Vickie Cashion and Mary Gaither, assistants; and Wyn Murdock and Mary Kubes, hygienists.

I appreciate the cooperation received from the W. B. Saunders Company and especially from Carroll Cann, Sandy Reinhardt, Raymond Kersey, and Laura Tarves.

Most of all, I am indebted to my wife, Edna, because her sacrifices made this work possible.

JOHN F. PRICHARD



# CONTENTS

|   |    |
|---|----|
| CHAPTER 1   |    |
| <b>INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION</b>                         | 1  |
| <i>John F. Prichard</i>                                     |    |
| Professional Education                                      | 2  |
| The Importance of Technology                                | 2  |
| Continuing Education  | 3  |
| Practice After Professional Study                           | 3  |
| Changing Concepts in Periodontics                           | 3  |
| Clinical Judgment   | 4  |
| Preventive Dentistry  | 4  |
| Misconceptions in Dentistry                                 | 4  |
| CHAPTER 2   |    |
| <b>THE ART OF REFERRING PATIENTS</b>                        | 7  |
| <i>Robert Lee Johnson</i>                                   |    |
| Introduction  | 7  |
| Problems in Referring Patients                              | 7  |
| Written Communication                                       | 9  |
| Conclusion  | 10 |
| CHAPTER 3   |    |
| <b>THE ETIOLOGY AND PATHOGENESIS OF PERIODONTAL DISEASE</b> | 12 |
| <i>S. Lawrence Simon and S. Sigmund Stahl</i>               |    |
| Introduction  | 12 |
| Challengers: Primary Considerations                         | 12 |
| Host Responses  | 12 |
| Factors That Alter Host Response: Secondary Considerations  | 19 |
| Summary   | 27 |
| CHAPTER 4   |    |
| <b>CLINICAL ORAL EXAMINATION</b>                            | 29 |
| <i>Leonard S. Tibbetts, Jr.</i>                             |    |
| The Patient Interview                                       | 29 |
| Clinical Examination  | 31 |
| Examination of the Dentition                                | 35 |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Caries and Inadequate Restorations .....                      | 43         |
| Occlusion .....   | 43         |
| Periodontal Probing .....                                     | 45         |
| Laboratory Tests.....   | 51         |
| CHAPTER 5   |            |
| <b>ROENTGENOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION.....</b>                      | <b>53</b>  |
| <i>John F. Prichard</i>                                       |            |
| Equipment Required for Making Accurate Radiographs .....      | 53         |
| Technique for Intraoral Radiography .....                     | 56         |
| Film Processing Laboratory .....                              | 61         |
| CHAPTER 6   |            |
| <b>INTERPRETATION OF ROENTGENOGRAPHS .....</b>                | <b>67</b>  |
| <i>John F. Prichard</i>                                       |            |
| Terminology .....   | 69         |
| The Radiographic Image .....                                  | 72         |
| Correlation of Clinical Observations and the Radiograph ..... | 78         |
| Panoramic Radiography .....                                   | 85         |
| Summary .....   | 89         |
| CHAPTER 7   |            |
| <b>DIAGNOSIS .....</b>  | <b>91</b>  |
| <i>John F. Prichard and Edwin S. Rosenberg</i>                |            |
| Common Diseases of the Gingiva.....                           | 92         |
| Diagnosis of Disease Affecting the Periodontium .....         | 97         |
| Examples of Dental Diagnostic Problems.....                   | 104        |
| CHAPTER 8   |            |
| <b>COMBINED PERIODONTAL-PULPAL PROBLEMS .....</b>             | <b>117</b> |
| <i>John F. Prichard and Peter Simon</i>                       |            |
| The Effect of Pulpal Lesions on the Periodontium .....        | 117        |
| The Effect of Marginal Periodontitis on the Pulp .....        | 121        |
| Diagnosis of Pulpal Disease.....                              | 124        |
| CHAPTER 9   |            |
| <b>ATTACHED GINGIVA AND ITS CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE .....</b>   | <b>134</b> |
| <i>Gary Maynard and Richard D. Wilson</i>                     |            |
| Attached Gingiva.....   | 135        |
| Alveolar Mucosa.....  | 135        |
| Identifying the Mucogingival Junction.....                    | 135        |
| The Function of Attached Gingiva.....                         | 137        |
| Marginal Tissue Recession .....                               | 138        |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Abnormal Frenulum Attachment .....   | 139 |
| Mucogingival Problems in Young Patients.....                                       | 139 |
| The Origin of Mucogingival Problems .....  | 142 |
| Prevention of Mucogingival Problems.....   | 144 |
| Attached Gingiva and Restorative Dentistry.....                                    | 146 |
| CHAPTER 10   |     |
| <b>TREATMENT PLANNING</b> .....  | 149 |
| <i>John F. Prichard</i>  |     |
| Sequence of Periodontal Treatment.....   | 149 |
| Preliminary Periodontal Treatment.....   | 151 |
| Presurgical Treatment.....   | 153 |
| Periodontal Surgery .....  | 157 |
| Extraction of Teeth .....  | 161 |
| CHAPTER 11   |     |
| <b>PROGNOSIS</b> .....   | 164 |
| <i>Neil Basaraba</i>   |     |
| Provisional Prognosis .....  | 164 |
| Prognosis for Individual Teeth Affected by Periodontal Disease .....               | 164 |
| Prognosis for the Dentition of an Arch .....                                       | 167 |
| Influence of Therapy on Prognosis .....  | 171 |
| Prosthetic Treatment.....  | 172 |
| Conclusions .....  | 177 |
| CHAPTER 12   |     |
| <b>AN EVALUATION OF PERIODONTAL THERAPY</b> .....                                  | 179 |
| <i>Harold C. Sternlicht</i>  |     |
| Introduction.....  | 179 |
| The Uses of Epidemiological Methods in Periodontal Research.....                   | 179 |
| Short-Term Studies to Evaluate Specific Techniques of<br>Periodontal Therapy ..... | 182 |
| Long-Term Studies .....  | 191 |
| Discussion .....   | 207 |
| The Management of Recurrent Periodontal Disease .....                              | 211 |
| Conclusion.....  | 213 |
| CHAPTER 13   |     |
| <b>BACTERIAL PLAQUE AND METHODS OF CONTROL</b> .....                               | 216 |
| <i>Gordon L. Douglass</i>  |     |
| The Relationship of Bacterial Plaque to Periodontal Disease.....                   | 216 |
| Plaque Formation and Redistribution.....   | 218 |
| Methods of Plaque Control.....   | 222 |
| Patient Education and Motivation.....  | 236 |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| A Plaque Control Program for the Periodontal Patient .....                    | 239        |
| CHAPTER 14  |            |
| <b>THE DETECTION AND REMOVAL OF CALCULUS IN PERIODONTAL THERAPY .....</b>     | <b>243</b> |
| <i>Douglas A. Meinig</i>  |            |
| Methods of Calculus Detection .....   | 243        |
| Selection of Instruments.....   | 246        |
| Scaling Strokes.....  | 249        |
| Conclusions .....   | 253        |
| CHAPTER 15  |            |
| <b>PERIODONTAL SURGERY IN THE DENTAL OFFICE .....</b>                         | <b>259</b> |
| <i>John M. Nabers</i>   |            |
| Importance of Patient History .....   | 259        |
| Importance of Patient Interest.....   | 260        |
| Preparation of the Patient for Periodontal Surgery.....                       | 260        |
| Preanesthetic and Postsurgical Medication for Office Periodontal Surgery..... | 262        |
| Emergency Equipment .....   | 263        |
| Importance of Asepsis .....   | 263        |
| Instrumentarium.....  | 265        |
| Surgical Procedure.....   | 268        |
| Postsurgical Care .....   | 268        |
| CHAPTER 16  |            |
| <b>GINGIVAL SURGERY .....</b>   | <b>270</b> |
| <i>John F. Prichard and J. E. Ford</i>  |            |
| Subgingival Scaling and Curettage .....                                       | 270        |
| Indications for Gingival Surgery.....   | 271        |
| Gingivectomy Technique .....  | 281        |
| CHAPTER 17  |            |
| <b>THE FLAP APPROACH IN PERIODONTAL SURGERY.....</b>                          | <b>298</b> |
| <i>Herbert Selipsky</i>   |            |
| Indications for the Use of a Flap Procedure.....                              | 298        |
| Contraindications for the Use of a Flap Procedure.....                        | 299        |
| Brief History of the Flap Approach in Periodontal Surgery.....                | 299        |
| Classification of Flaps .....   | 300        |
| Planning Flap Design .....  | 303        |
| Flap Management.....  | 307        |
| The Flap Approach Technique.....  | 309        |
| Flap Management for Special Regions .....                                     | 318        |

## CHAPTER 18

**OSSEOUS SURGERY IN PERIODONTAL THERAPY** ..... 329*Robert Lee Johnson*

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Rationale of Periodontal Osseous Surgery.....          | 330 |
| Morphology of the Periodontium.....                    | 332 |
| Instrumentarium for Periodontal Osseous Resection..... | 336 |
| Soft Tissue Management .....                           | 338 |
| Osteoplasty.....                                       | 338 |
| Ostectomy.....   | 339 |
| Maintenance of the Cure .....                          | 343 |

## CHAPTER 19

**ROOT RESECTION IN PERIODONTAL THERAPY** ..... 346*William F. Ammons, Jr.*

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Classification of Furca Invasions .....                | 346 |
| Root Amputation.....                                   | 349 |
| The Technique of Root Amputation.....                  | 351 |
| Combination of Root Amputation and Tooth Movement..... | 354 |

## CHAPTER 20

**MANAGEMENT OF INTRABONY DEFECTS** ..... 358*John F. Prichard*

|                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Terminology .....                    | 358 |
| Defects in Marginal Bone.....        | 360 |
| Defects in Inter-alveolar Bone ..... | 361 |
| Diagnosis of Intrabony Defects ..... | 363 |
| Treatment of Intrabony Defects ..... | 364 |

## CHAPTER 21

**IMPLANTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF BONY DEFECTS** ..... 369*Pat Haggerty*

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Sources of Graft Material.....                        | 370 |
| Technical Factors in the Use of Implants .....        | 377 |
| Treatment of the Bony Defect by Implant Therapy ..... | 382 |
| Prognosis for Regenerative Procedures.....            | 384 |

## CHAPTER 22

**MUCOGINGIVAL SURGERY** ..... 386*William F. Ammons, Jr.*

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Selection of a Surgical Technique ..... | 386 |
| The Free Mucosal Autograft .....        | 394 |
| Two-Stage Surgical Procedures .....     | 398 |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| CHAPTER 23  |            |
| <b>MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE INFECTIONS .....</b>                                   | <b>403</b> |
| <i>Robert Gottsegen and Raymond Z. Darakjian</i>                              |            |
| Introduction.....   | 403        |
| Periodontal Abscesses .....   | 403        |
| Necrotizing Ulcerative Gingivitis .....                                       | 415        |
| Primary Herpetic Gingivostomatitis.....                                       | 425        |
| Specific Infections with Acute Secondary Periodontal Symptoms .....           | 429        |
| CHAPTER 24  |            |
| <b>OCCLUSAL ADJUSTMENT IN MANAGEMENT OF THE PERIODONTAL PATIENT.....</b>      | <b>433</b> |
| <i>B. M. Pennel</i>   |            |
| Static Malocclusion and Periodontal Health.....                               | 434        |
| Periodontal Traumatism from Occlusion.....                                    | 434        |
| Periodontal Traumatism and Periodontitis .....                                | 436        |
| Indications for Occlusal Adjustment.....                                      | 441        |
| The Technique of Occlusal Adjustment.....                                     | 443        |
| Adjustment of Lateral Movements .....   | 450        |
| Adjustment of Incisors.....   | 456        |
| CHAPTER 25  |            |
| <b>MINOR TOOTH MOVEMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PERIODONTAL PATIENT.....</b> | <b>462</b> |
| <i>Marc B. Cooper</i>   |            |
| The Role of Tooth Movement in Periodontal Therapy .....                       | 465        |
| Causes of Tooth Malposition.....  | 483        |
| The Application of Force for Tooth Movement .....                             | 491        |
| Fixed Archwire Appliances.....  | 498        |
| Anchorage.....  | 500        |
| Retention After Tooth Movement .....  | 502        |
| Orthodontics in the Sequence of Periodontal Therapy .....                     | 503        |
| CHAPTER 26  |            |
| <b>TEMPORARY SPLINTING .....</b>  | <b>505</b> |
| <i>Matthew Kessler</i>  |            |
| Causes of Abnormal Mobility.....  | 505        |
| Disadvantages of Splinting .....  | 506        |
| Guidelines for the Construction of Splints.....                               | 506        |
| Reasons for Temporary Splinting.....  | 507        |
| Requirements of Temporary Splints.....  | 507        |
| Methods of Temporary Splinting.....   | 507        |

## CHAPTER 27

**PERIODIC ORAL PROPHYLAXIS..... 525***John F. Prichard and Wyn Murdock*

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Objectives of Prophylactic Treatment..... | 525 |
| System for Instrumentation.....           | 526 |
| Instrumentarium.....                      | 529 |
| Technique of Scaling.....                 | 531 |
| Use and Abuse of Ultrasonic Scalers.....  | 534 |
| Polishing.....                            | 535 |
| Periodic Prophylactic Recall System.....  | 535 |

## CHAPTER 28

**THE RELATIONSHIP OF RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY TO PERIODONTICS ..... 538***Richard D. Wilson and J. Gary Maynard, Jr.*

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Intracrevicular Restorative Margins.....   | 538 |
| Sequence of Treatment.....   | 538 |
| Physiologic Dimensions of the Periodontium Significant to the Restorative Dentist..... | 544 |
| The Amalgam Restoration.....   | 557 |
| The Full Coverage Restoration.....   | 559 |
| The Provisional Restoration.....   | 561 |
| Impression Taking.....   | 569 |
| Fixed Prostheses.....  | 571 |

## CHAPTER 29

**DENTAL IMPLANTS IN COMPREHENSIVE PERIODONTAL THERAPY ..... 577***Donald M. Keene*

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Classification of Implants.....  | 578 |
| Treatment Planning for the Use of Dental Implants.....                 | 578 |
| The Blade-Vent Implant.....  | 581 |
| The Unilateral Subperiosteal Implant.....                              | 592 |
| Surgical Dressings, Suture Removal, Oral Hygiene.....                  | 595 |
| The Prosthetic Superstructure in Implant Dentistry.....                | 597 |
| Occlusion for the Implant-Supported Prosthesis.....                    | 602 |
| Report of Histologic Study of Mandible with Subperiosteal Implant..... | 603 |
| Implant Failure.....   | 605 |

## CHAPTER 30

**REMOVABLE PROSTHESES FOR THE PERIODONTAL PATIENT..... 608***Walter J. Demer*

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Periodontal Considerations in Designing Removable Partial Dentures..... | 609 |
|---|-----|

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Tooth Modification in Removable Partial Denture Construction..... | 627        |
| Torquing Forces of Distal Extension Dentures .....                | 629        |
| Maintenance and Servicing.....                                    | 631        |
| CHAPTER 31  |            |
| <b>IATROGENIC DENTAL DISORDERS .....</b>                          | <b>634</b> |
| <i>John F. Prichard</i>   |            |
| Excessive Treatment.....  | 634        |
| The Ultra-Speed Handpiece .....                                   | 636        |
| Orthodontic Treatment.....  | 643        |
| Exodontia .....   | 643        |
| <b>INDEX .....</b>  | <b>647</b> |



# INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION

*John F. Prichard*

Dentistry exists as a profession to save the natural dentition. If its primary role were *removal* rather than retention of teeth, dentistry would be merely a branch of general surgery. However, nature intended for the teeth to last a lifetime, and with proper home and professional care from early childhood, there are few persons who cannot realize this expectation.

Patients place great demands on members of the dental profession. The demands are emotional as well as physical. In other parts of the body they usually accept change from disease and aging as inevitable. However, the oral cavity is viewed differently. Three factors are responsible for this: The oral cavity is visible; it has great cosmetic importance to the individual; and, more significantly, it is used to express emotions.

Unfortunately, many patients neglect their oral health until prognosis for the dentition is hopeless or nearly so. Then they expect to be restored to ideal oral health without discomfort, inconvenience, loss of tissue, or decrease in function.

More teeth are lost by adults from periodontal disease than from dental caries, but it is not the combination of dental caries and periodontal disease that causes the greatest loss of teeth. The members of the dental profession themselves are responsible for a substantial percentage of lost teeth because of incorrect diagnosis and treatment planning. Extraction is indicated for only a small percentage of the teeth that are removed.

Almost all dental problems and treatments have an effect on the periodontium, and a practical application of the science of oral biology is essential in patient care.

Webster defines “practical” as “that which can be used; workable; useful,” and further, “[that which] is concerned with application of knowledge to useful ends, as distinguished from theory.” The practice of dentistry requires a search for the practical in biological, physical, chemical, artistic, and mechanical science. However, the practitioner must also remember the human factor. The patient is a person, not just a case.

*Practical* should not be confused with *expedient*, which implies action for an immediate or special advantage. Something that is expedient may or may not be practical. The purpose of this book is to help the practicing dentist diagnose and treat the many and varied patient problems encountered in office practice.