Cone beam computed tomography or CBCT has become the mainstay of surgical treatment planning with regards to dental implants. This advanced imaging technique has now become more accessible to the general dental practitioner and offers visual information that would otherwise be much more difficult to acquire in the outpatient setting. CBCT does not only allow for three-dimensional visualization of the jaws and teeth, but also displays features of the sinuses, neck, skull and brain. This has resulted in dentists needing to acquire new skills to diagnose extra-oral pathology that might be present on modern CBCT scans.

This book summarizes important basics of the interpretation of CBCT images. It is divided into 11 sections that include 2 appendices that outline examples of CBCT reports. Of particular interest, is the chapter on the legal issues associated with CBCT and its implications for the diagnoses of non-dental pathology. The author clearly highlights the need for interpretation of the entire DICOM set of images, rather than focusing on dental pathology alone.

The chapters contributed by Gayle Reardon covering the paranasal sinuses and airway are well written and allow non-ENT trained healthcare professionals insight into the normal anatomy and the most common pathology that may be visualized on CBCT. Other chapters such as those on the cranial base as well as that of the soft tissues of the brain and orbits, allow those with large field CBCT scans to better interpret variations from the normal anatomy. Areas of specific interest such as the temporomandibular joints, implants and cervical spine and soft tissues are also adequately addressed.

The main strength of the text is the ability to summarize and to explain a large amount of complex concepts in a simple and easily understood manner. The fact that the book is in paperback format, makes its easily transportable and a quick reference when required.

Like all texts, there are weaknesses. Dental and jaw pathology is only addressed briefly and an argument can be made to add this as an additional chapter in future additions. This will greatly contribute to the dental knowledge of non-dental trained health care professionals that use CBCT. Although the basics of implant treatment planning are covered, this chapter could have been expanded. The use of CBCT in orthodontics and orthognatic surgery also requires further attention.

In summary, the author has succeeded in publishing a text that was sorely missing in the dental profession. Her ability to reduce large volumes of information into a readable and useable format must be commended. As an introduction to the interpretation to the subject matter, the book cannot be faulted. As mentioned, there may be further information that readers require that is not included. This is simply remedied by accessing larger reference style books. As an everyday companion for those using CBCT, I would strongly recommend those to have a copy of this book at your side at all times in the clinic.

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