

Teeth Relief Oral Health Manual

This Handbook was written for health workers in low-income countries and in deprived communities.

The book is intended to support these health workers in rendering basic oral health care in places where there is no dentist and where facilities are minimal, (no unit, chair, compressor, X-ray and sometimes no electricity).

The content aims at improving oral health through prevention, pain relief and medication.

It contains chapters about anatomy, the function and development of teeth, aetiology, diagnosis and prevention of caries and periodontal disease. Attention is given to periapical abscesses, diagnosis and treatment, anaesthesia and tooth extraction and possible complications, in addition to medication, sterilisation of instruments and the prevention of cross-infection.

Dislocation of the mandible and of the front teeth is covered too.

The final chapter gives information about how to recognise, treat or refer cases such as: candida, aphthous ulcers, herpes, lichen planus, pericoronitis, cellulitis, osteomyelitis, noma, mouth cancer and cleft palate.

Well illustrated, compact and easily readable, this manual deserves a place in the luggage of every (Dutch) dentist who travels to a developing country for a long or short stay to assist (non dental) health workers in improving the oral health of local populations. Leaving the manual with them will also then contribute to the training of local health workers.

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