PREHENSIVE PAIN AND ANXIETY CONTROL IN DENTISTRY. The next significant influence will be on the academic community. This will be the most important of all the developments, for it is the universal teaching of conscious sedation and analgesia techniques to the dental student which will have the most profound impact in overcoming the greatest obstacle to dental treatment: Pain and anxiety.

There can be no doubt, that the formal training of a group of dentists in General Anesthesia has been one of the most significant developments in this whole field of increasing dental treatment for the public in this century. The next important contribution to the public welfare in dentistry will come with the advance of teaching programs in pain and anxiety control into the academic community.

I think my advice to the perplexed young dentist is correct: Patience, Persistence and Optimism.

Milton Jaffe, D.D.S.

BOOK REVIEWS


This compact volume is a comprehensive general text that covers in simple language all of the legal relations that the dentist can be a party to. There are three sections to the book: The first is on the rights and duties of dentists, the second covers the rights and duties of patients and dentists, and the last is on dental professional liability.

The subject of malpractice is covered from all viewpoints. Fees, consent forms, peer review, and community standards. Guidelines for avoiding problems are an important part of the discussion of professional liability.

Many aspects of legal responsibilities, of which the average dentist is only remotely aware, include the responsibility and liability of employees, prescription writing, federal and state laws relating to drug abuse and the relation of an individual to organized dentistry.

The important matter of partnerships and corporations is examined and specific areas of potential problems are pointed out. With increasing number of law suits that the dental profession is facing, this book should be in every office.

Walter Feller, LL.B., and Bernard Scheuer, D.D.S.


This edition has attempted to cover a complicated subject in its usual format namely, fractionating the material into its major features. This is usually satisfactory with technical modalities like fixed or removable prosthesis but is potentially hazardous with the field of anesthesiology.

The book covers areas such as physical evaluation, nitrous oxide, intravenous sedation, drugs, surgical anesthesia teams etc. Unfortunately, the reader is subjected to many different opinions on techniques, personnel and philosophy so that the less sophisticated reader may become confused or misled.

All of the contributors emphasize training, safety and experience when utilizing anesthesia and analgesia. This is to their credit and the editor in his preface has also expanded on this aspect of anesthesia practice. It can only be hoped that the reader will take these admonitions to heart before proceeding headlong into this important and previously disregarded aspect of dental care and education.

Richard J. Lowell, D.D.S.