This hardback book is the authorised English translation of the German edition, published initially in 2013.

First impressions are promising, with the book appearing colourful, bright and easily readable. With its easy to read narrative and good organisation of the various topics, it makes an invariably well-thought-out piece of text, guiding the reader carefully through dental imaging in a logical manner.

Within the techniques and radiography section, the book focuses on imaging of the teeth and the supporting structures while not really straying into a maxillofacial sphere, so the need to look elsewhere for a book focusing on more maxillofacial plain film views/CT/MRI/ultrasound is required. On the whole, the descriptions and text are clear, however terminology often differs compared to that of UK convention.

The text provides an excellent section relating to projection geometry and the principles of dental panoramic tomography. Not only is there information on how to practice dental panoramic radiography consistently, but also a holistic section on positioning errors. This section correlates text together with diagrammatical and photographic representations of the errors and the subsequent radiographic image, all of which provide a clear explanation of the technique.

This is in contrast to the section describing occlusal radiography; again the difference in nomenclature is present. However, the section fails to describe tube positioning and angulation, which are obviously important aspects of the examination.
As well as providing clear and colourful diagrams, the use of colour extends to the textboxes; the ‘practice’ boxes impart useful practical tips, elaborating on what the author feels are important points within the body text.

While most of the information is factually correct, phrasing and terminology are not frequently used by a UK audience. Unusually, other views such as the right-angle technique are described by the author, although these views are not taught as part of the UK undergraduate dental curriculum. Details regarding legislation are very brief, giving a broad overview of ICRP principles but with no mention of IRR99 nor IR(ME)R 2000. This most likely reflects the more ‘international’ nature of the publication, and readers requiring information about legislation will have to consult other texts. The use of two different spacer cones/beam indicating devices for the same x-ray set would not be practical, as they are not supplied with these in the UK market. This practice is contrary to standard practice in the UK, and is certainly not encouraged (only use of a long beam indicating device is recommended). This may also be a reason as to why the ideal focus-film distances appear absent from the text.

The section on image formation and imaging processing is very good, dealing with the fundamentals of the topic with aplomb. Following on from this, the digital dental radiography section is particularly clear, utilising clear and colourful diagrams to good effect to supplement the text.

This book provides a useful and concise alternative to the standard UK texts, offering a well-organised and useful text of dental imaging. However, some sections which would be useful for those in training are absent, and therefore require supplementation with additional texts.

This book can be purchased through the RAD Magazine Book Service at the discounted rate of £35.44. (Price correct as at March 16, 2016). For more information please call (01371) 812960.