This book is dedicated to all of the students who challenge us as educators to continually strive to provide better learning experiences.

A special dedication to my granddaughter Molly (age 2) who keeps me grounded and joyful.

I also wish to thank my husband Larry, my daughter Katie, my son-in-law Jeremy, and my parents Morey and MaryAnn for their patience, ever present support, and encouragement.
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Preface

Identifying dental instruments is essential for every member of the dental team. The small, detailed nature of the instruments and the large number of instruments in dental practice makes learning this skill a daunting task.

This textbook was written in response to needs expressed by dental assisting students. Students asked for a book that was exclusively about dental instruments, that had clear distinctive pictures of the instruments, and that was concisely written. Comprehensive dental textbooks contain descriptions of dental instruments, but they are scattered throughout the textbook and generally are not discussed in as much detail. Students also suggested something that was portable, that they could take home to study or carry with them to the clinical area as a quick reference guide. The result was the first edition of Dental Instruments: A Pocket Guide to Identification. With the encouragement of Kathy Booth of Total Care Programming, Inc., a companion CD was developed to provide additional interactive learning experiences. Although this book was written in response to requests of dental assisting students, it is also useful for dental hygiene and beginning dental students.

This second edition includes new chapters of study about instruments used in diagnosis and treatment planning, the dental laboratory, dental radiography, and infection control. The second edition is also
enhanced with updated technology, related equipment, tray set-ups for numerous dental procedures, and in-use photos and diagrams.


**To the Students:**
Mastering instrument identification and the organization of instruments and materials for specific procedures is essential for success as a clinical dental auxiliary.

This book is designed to introduce you to instruments by name, function, procedure, and tray set-up. The flash card style can be used in the classroom and for independent study as you master identification of the instruments used in all areas of dentistry. The instrument's image is shown on a separate page facing the description. Once you become familiar with the instruments, the book can be folded over and the images can be used as flashcards for self-testing.

There are 16 chapters of study organizing the instruments and equipment by functions and procedures, from basic hand instruments to all specialty areas. The companion CD includes all of the instruments in an interactive format as well as games, crossword puzzles, and other learning activities. Once you are in a clinical setting, the book can continue to be used as a quick reference guide.
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University of Kentucky College of Dentistry Oral Health Resources
## Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Exam and Basic Hand Instruments</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Diagnostic and Treatment Planning Instruments</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hand Cutting Instruments—Cavity Preparation</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Restorative Instruments</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dental Dam Instruments</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Dental Handpieces</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dental Burs and Rotary Instruments</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Impression Instruments and Equipment</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Laboratory Instruments and Equipment</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Crown and Bridge Instruments</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Instruments</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Endodontic Instruments</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Hygiene and Periodontal Instruments</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Orthodontic Instruments</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Radiographic Instruments and Equipment</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Infection Control Instruments and Equipment</td>
<td>569</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>