

## Book Reviews

### *Esthetic Dentistry and Ceramic Restorations*

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Martin Dunitz Ltd, 1999

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The aim of this book, according to the authors, is to discuss basic principles of the clinical and laboratory procedures required for aesthetic ceramic restorations of single teeth. As such, it goes far beyond this remit, demonstrating the state of the art in ceramic restorations. The authors are to be congratulated in producing such a beautifully written and illustrated textbook which demonstrates what can be achieved in this area.

The book is divided into 12 chapters, all of which are referenced, with another section at the end of the book giving further references. The first few chapters deal with the theory behind bonding to enamel and dentine, and of ceramic systems currently available. In both of these chapters the history of development is explained, as is the current status. These are rapidly changing areas, which mean that this information will become dated very quickly, indeed there is no mention of the latest ceramic system Procera from Nobel Biocare. However, for those looking for a knowledgeable review of these areas, then this is an excellent starting point.

The next 6 chapters deal with the aesthetics of teeth. This is broken down into the theory of colour and light transmission, colour of natural teeth, transfer of aesthetic information to the technologist, and the shape and position of teeth. As before this is an excellent review of this whole subject, beautifully illustrated throughout. In addition to 'normal' teeth there are sections on causes of tooth dis-

coloration, and a chapter on the treatment of tooth discoloration, which gives a good review of microabrasion and bleaching (vital and non-vital).

Three chapters following describing ceramic restorations in their many guises, starting with ceramic veneers followed by crowns, inlay, and onlays. As with the whole book the quality of the clinical material shown photographically is both plentiful and of excellent quality. The description of the techniques is well structured and although there could be some minor disagreements relating to some of the detail, the authors put forward a convincing argument backed up by their own audited case histories over 10 years.

The final chapter describes the laboratory procedures, which would be of use to the clinician, but not in sufficient depth for a technologist.

The cost of this book is high, but is fully justified by the quality of the text and photography contained within it. As a restorative specialist I see this book as an excellent addition to my collection, one which hopefully will inspire me to achieve the high clinical standards demonstrated throughout the book. I would recommend this book strongly to all those who wish to know more in this area. As orthodontic specialists some of the chapters will be of interest, particularly the clinical ones and I would urge you to look through the book. However, I am not certain that it is an essential text that you will feel the necessity to pay the £125 price. Those who are involved in Paediatric Dentistry will find much of interest within the book.

Therefore, in summary, can I congratulate the authors, associated ceramists and publishers for producing this excellent textbook. It may not be of relevance to all specialities, but is well worth a 'flick' of the pages to see some outstanding clinical work.

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