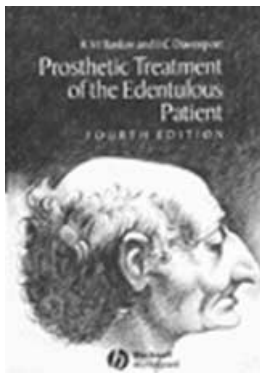


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**Prosthetic  
 Treatment of the  
 Edentulous  
 Patient,  
 4th Edition**

*R.M. Baskar and John Davenport. Blackwell Publishing  
 Company, Boston, 2002: ISBN 0-632-05998-2 (328  
 pages, 80 B/W illustrations; price \$54.99)*

This 4th edition text on edentulous prosthetic treatment offers a biologic approach to edentulous care rather than the mechanistic, technique-oriented approach of many texts on the same topic. Clinical techniques or treatment approaches are supported by literature references in the text and additional supporting literature is included in the bibliography. General principles are emphasized and provide moderate to in-depth discussion of clinical techniques. This updated edition provides numerous high-quality lists, tables, flow diagrams, illustrations, and black and white photographs. Each chapter is organized by subject headings, aiding the transition between chapters, and facilitating the reader's understanding. This book can best be appreciated by students with prior clinical experience with edentulous patients, or used as a supplement to a novice's basic education material. The postdoctoral student will receive an insightful overview of the multifactorial components in comprehensive care for the edentulous patient and find the references helpful for further study. The authors' clear, concise writing style might also stimulate academicians to develop innovative teaching approaches.

The text is divided into two sections. Section One (Chapters 1–5) presents general information

regarding the edentulous patient and fundamental principles. Each chapter begins with a brief introduction tying it to previous chapters and describing the focus of the current chapter. This creates a consistent building of the reader's knowledge and a sense of a common theme throughout the text. Section Two begins with Chapter 6, which provides a nice preview of the ten remaining chapters, focusing on clinical care.

In the first two chapters, the authors appraise edentulism and discuss some changes commonly occurring in older adults. This excellent overview of what edentulous care entails would be of great benefit to readers of all levels. The authors point out that our aging population will be retaining more teeth to an older age, making the acceptance of complete edentulism more difficult, and not without psychological issues that will affect many patients' willingness, determination, and ability to cooperate and participate in their care. They also emphasize that the compromised health of many older patients and their high expectations for outcomes of care will demand that caregivers have more knowledge and skill in treating complete edentulism. Not only will dentists need excellent clinical skills, but they will also need to understand the issues faced by the aging population and be prepared to counsel and educate. The aforementioned emphasis should serve as a statement to the dental profession, both in private practice and in educational institutions: that basic, fundamental principles of complete denture care must be mastered to serve this growing edentulous population successfully.

Given the anxiety created by tooth loss for some patients, Chapter 3 outlines the principles of treatment contributing to a successful transition from natural to artificial dentition. The condition of the teeth and supporting tissues, position of teeth, age, health, and patient wishes as related to this transition are explored. The authors produce an excellent section on immediate dentures, with the associated laboratory and clinical procedures and a list of advantages and disadvantages for the dentist and the patient. Chapter 4 discusses the stability of dentures with respect to retentive forces exceeding the displacing forces that act on the complete dentures. The forces are described in relation to the design of the dentures, creation and maintenance of a seal, and patient's adaptive ability. Here, the use of high-quality illustrations

facilitates the understanding of the presented principles.

Chapter 5 discusses the theoretical background for jaw relations and occlusion. The authors are sensitive to the broad use of prosthodontic terms and carefully define the jaw relation terms to be used in this text. A very clear description of mandibular positions and their significance in complete denture construction is given. The authors discuss the consequences of not using a retruded jaw position for denture fabrication. Several theories of the resting vertical dimension are discussed, including a theory on the role of the tongue in respiratory function in edentulous patients and how this affects the vertical dimension of rest.

Because the average life expectancy of patients receiving complete dentures for the first time is considerably greater than the life expectancy of the dentures themselves, the need for replacement dentures should exceed first-time dentures. Therefore, Chapters 7–16 present discussions relating to clinical issues in the treatment of patients requiring replacement dentures. Keeping with the current trend for outcomes measures assessment, the authors introduce the idea of a clinical audit, a self-examination by the clinician on the treatment outcomes compared with preassigned criteria. This could serve as a foundation on which quality initiatives can be built and reviewed by groups of dentists.

In Chapter 7, a systematic approach to diagnosis, treatment planning, and establishing a prognosis is described, beginning with the patient's chief complaint and dental, medical, and social histories. The authors emphasize correlating the exam findings and patient history to the patient's chief complaint, thus enabling the dentist to estimate success of the proposed treatment and possible limitations on meeting the patient's expectations. The relevance and value of existing complete dentures are emphasized throughout the book. The authors suggest studying existing dentures during the treatment process. Existing dentures may be duplicated as replacement dentures and then modified during the treatment process or reproduced to serve as the new definitive prostheses. Two techniques are reviewed.

Because the denture bearing tissues often require the resolution of pathoses before definitive prosthesis construction, the authors divide the dis-

cussion of this process into the conditions involving the mucosa and bone. Etiology, both local and systemic, diagnosis, and treatment are separately covered. The authors believe that maximum accuracy requires a two-stage impression process, and the clinical techniques for both preliminary and final impressions are discussed. They review anatomy as related to the denture bearing areas and emphasize the importance of the functional form of the vestibule in providing a good seal, referring the reader to a previous chapter. The authors include an excellent summary of the advantages and disadvantages of the mucostatic and mucodisplasive impressions. Illustrations demonstrate the relation of the anatomy to the denture bases, and high-quality photos accurately demonstrate the often misunderstood correlation between the impression and the trimming of the cast.

Chapter 11 focuses on making jaw relation records on the edentulous patient without existing dentures. Two techniques for determining the vertical dimension of rest are reviewed. The authors briefly mention the Biometric Guide for positioning teeth, and refer to other sources for more in-depth study. The traditional method of establishing vertical dimension of occlusion and retruded jaw position with wax rims is reviewed, as is a time-saving technique for the experienced clinician. The selection of teeth is reviewed, and a formula for determining tooth size from a full-face portrait is also discussed. The authors review the clinical implications of intraoral denture function and its effect on articulator choice, with a summary of the different classes of articulators.

In Chapter 12, the authors discuss the importance of placing the teeth in a position compatible with the patient's muscular balance and how variance from these positions can lead to failure. This is a very informative and well-written section with suggestions for tooth position modification for Class II Division I and Class II Division II situations, as well as the possible consequences involved. The neutral zone technique is also reviewed. Chapters 13–15 present a good overview of the objectives for the try-in, delivery, and recall appointments, addressing both the clinical and laboratory factors. Tables summarizing denture and patient faults and the probable associated complaint are included, as are assessment questions for clinicians and significance of patients' responses. The last chapter is an in-depth discussion

on clinical problems commonly encountered and the authors' solutions.

This is a clear, concise, and comprehensive discussion of prosthetic care for edentulous patients. As stated in the book's preface, the text provides a flexible, biologic approach to complete denture care. The authors did an outstanding job of identifying patients' and dentists' roles in successful outcomes. Smooth transitions between chapters and references to the information presented in previous chapters continually reinforce and integrate the principles being discussed. Although intended for readers of all levels, the beginner would benefit from prior patient experiences or concurrent study of other basic texts while reading this book. Postdoctoral students and educators will find this text a most valuable resource. The seasoned clinician will find many helpful suggestions and reminders to improve the delivery of quality edentulous care.

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### **Esthetic Color Training in Dentistry**

*Rade D. Paravina and John M. Powers. Mosby Elsevier, St. Louis, 2004: ISBN 0-323-02838-1 (272 pages, 100 color illustrations; price \$60; soft cover, includes CD-ROM)*

Two editors collaborated with 29 contributing authors to produce this text that includes 10 chapters and a forward by Dr. Robert C. Sproull. It is an ambitious attempt to present an overview of the expansive subject of color as related to esthetics in dentistry. Topics range from the nature of color itself to the identification, matching, and

communication of its character in an effort to provide esthetic restorative care. As the editors express in their preface, the text is intended for dental students and educators as well as practicing dentists and dental laboratory technicians. It is chiefly a presentation of concepts and considerations rather than of techniques and suggestions, although these are interspersed throughout the text.

The text is divided into three parts, and includes an additional fourth part associated with an interactive CD-ROM of color training exercises. The first part, divided into three chapters, is devoted to color and appearance. It begins with a brief review of the nature of light and the physiology of human perception, leading to the second chapter, "Colorimetry." In this chapter, the important concepts of hue, chroma, and lightness are introduced, as are various mechanisms to quantify color differences. The Munsell Color Order and the Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage (CIE, International Commission on Illumination) Systems are reviewed, and several types of color measuring instruments are presented. For those with a background in color science, the extent of the information presented may be appropriate; however, for the less experienced reader, additional information would have been useful to aid in understanding this important material. Section One ends with the third chapter, which considers properties important to appearance other than color, including translucency, opacity, gloss, surface roughness, opalescence, iridescence, fluorescence, and phosphorescence.

Part 2 deals with color as related to natural teeth and esthetic dental materials. Chapter 4, "Natural Teeth," provides an overview of color and other appearance properties of natural teeth and includes a discussion of tooth color space and discoloration. The chapter on esthetic dental materials, Chapter 5, is the most extensive in the text. In it, topics including composition, color stability, and potential for staining of materials typically associated with restorative dentistry, such as ceramics, resin composites, glass ionomers, and denture teeth, are presented. In addition, denture base resins, extraoral maxillofacial elastomers, and orthodontic materials are included. Worthy of special note in this chapter is a synopsis of information on tooth bleaching. This short section is an excellent resource for patient education, as it provides references and concise information on

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