The maxillary posterior area is the least predictable area for implant success because of the presence of the sinuses and less favorable bone quality. This is well presented, along with surgical options, in Chapter 17. The author again approaches both partially and completely edentulous treatment plans—now for the maxillary arches. He compares fixed prostheses and overdentures in the areas of esthetics and function and also addresses additional considerations in partially edentulous cases, such as implant size, number, and position.

Chapter 19, "Clinical Biomechanics in Implant Dentistry," is modified from the previous book. This is one of the greatest summaries this reviewer has read concerning implant biomechanics and the possibilities of failures, even though more scientific evidence is being pursued as I write. Chapter 20 addresses biological, biomechanical, and biochemical considerations in implant-manufacturing designs and coating surfaces. The reviewer recommends that these two chapters be read thoroughly for a greater understanding of variable designs in commercial implants.

Chapters 21 and 22 concern single-tooth restorations for posterior single tooth and maxillary anterior teeth. In the chapter concerning single posterior restorations, the author not only approaches treatment planning, but also touches upon the most common clinical procedures including both direct and indirect techniques. Chapter 20 addresses the maxillary anterior single tooth restorations and lists all kinds of surgical and prosthodontic considerations and techniques for the achievement of the most highly esthetic restorations.

Chapter 23 concerns cement-retained fixed prosthodontics, including a comparison with screw-retained fixed prosthodontics, techniques for abutment preparation, custom abutments, and cements. Principles are covered for screw-retained prostheses, the mechanics in screw systems, and clinical protocols and techniques for achieving passivity of fit with a variety of clinical and laboratory procedures. Additionally considered are the existing occlusion, implant orientation, cantilever, crown height, width, and location of restorations and materials. Chapter 25 goes into more depth for when the clinician approaches these important factors.

Loading times for implants remains a very popular issue, and Dr. Misch has been credited for the term "progressive loading," as originally proposed. Chapter 26 concerns this approach of progressive loading, while Chapter 27 is about immediate loading. The author reveals his prosthodontic specialty background in Chapter 28 in discussions of clinical combination syndrome tendencies when treating patients with mandibular implant prostheses. The book concludes with information on the maintenance of implants and success and failure criteria.

This book has been very well written for all aspects of dental implant prosthodontics by the primary author, Dr. Misch. It is a great resource for the beginner to understand the overall aspects of implant restorations as well as for experts to review their own concepts and approaches. If this reviewer may suggest one small thing, there are dominant illustrations from one specific brand of implant since the author maintains a close relationship with that company. While that is certainly understandable, the text would have been even better were it more balanced with other brands of commercially available implant components. The price is very competitive—not too excessive for such well-organized knowledge and tremendous illustrations. This is a very valuable book to have on-site for both clinical reference and formal education.

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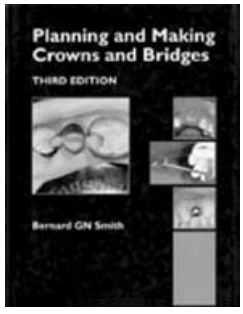

Planning and Making Crowns and Bridges, 3rd Edition

Bernard GN Smith. Martin Dunitz Publishers, London, 1998 (reprint 2000): ISBN 1-85317-314-2 (289 pages, 500 color illustrations; price $89; hardcover)

This textbook was written with an emphasis on treatment planning, crown and fixed partial

denture design, and related theory. Many clinical techniques are described with excellent color illustrations. The author has selected content relevant to both the undergraduate and postgraduate student.

The text includes 13 chapters with separate sections for single crowns and fixed partial dentures, each covering the following topic areas: types, indications and contraindications, design of preparations, occlusal considerations, treatment planning, and fabrication. Other related clinical techniques include basic steps of tooth preparation, post and cores, and provisional fabrication.

An entire section, supported with clinical illustrations, is devoted to an array of splint designs using both minimal and full crown preparations. Advantages, disadvantages, and clinical applications of each design are highlighted. The author also provides many examples and personal insights on managing crown and fixed partial denture failures and repairs. Several restoration choices that are fabricated infrequently today due to the popularity of other treatment alternatives are included, with a focus on their maintenance and repair. The clinical examples in this section will be insightful to many clinicians. Each chapter concludes with the author's "practical points," which summarize important factors to be considered with each treatment option.

The third edition brings several additions to the previous text, including over 100 new color photographs. Illustrations and quality line drawings are strong supporting features of this clinically based resource. A new section on implant-retained prostheses, emphasizing their role in the replacement of missing teeth as compared to conventional fixed partial dentures, provides a good overview. The author provides an extensive dialogue on many factors influencing treatment choices between natural tooth and implant-supported prostheses. Multiple color images compliment the discussion of these clinical cases, and this section also demonstrates examples of advanced restorative concepts, such as cast copings and precision attachments for removable partial dentures.

Details on techniques for fabricating fixed restorations are brief, and the laboratory phase is nonspecific and not the focus of this text. The writing style of the text is practical and friendly, reflecting the dialogue of a personal mentor. The reader senses a devotion on the part of the author to extend a blend of treatment options that may support the best interests of the patient and provide helpful guidance in challenging clinical situations.

The dental terminology is occasionally different from what is typically used in peer-reviewed prosthodontic journals, but is easily interpreted after reading the chapter and reviewing the illustrations. Subsequent editions will likely have a greater emphasis on the use and design of all-ceramic fixed partial dentures and single unit crowns.

This is a well-illustrated and organized resource with specific emphasis on the fundamentals of crowns and fixed partial dentures. The clinical photography is an excellent enhancement in all sections of the text.

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