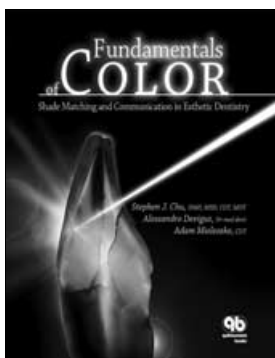


# Book Reviews

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## **Fundamentals of Color: Shade Matching and Communication in Esthetic Dentistry**

*Stephen J. Chu, Alessandro Devigus, and Adam Miesleszko. Quintessence Publishing Co., Inc., Carol Stream, IL, 2004; ISBN 0-86715-434-9 (168 pages; 426 colored illustrations; price \$78, soft cover)*

A clinician-technician team of authors produced this textbook, which includes five chapters. The purpose of the text, as suggested by the title, is to explain the basic science and art of color so as to help the reader better understand the mechanism involved in the shade matching process in the dental practice. The text also provides the reader with an overview of different shade-matching protocols, to achieve better communication with the technician and hence, better esthetic results. This book is suitable for anyone seeking to gain a better understanding of the shade-matching process, but would be of particular value to general practitioners, specialists, and dental technicians.

The first chapter, "Color Theory," gives a concise but informative review of the basics of color perception and reproduction. It correlates color with dentistry and explains color as a multidimensional entity. The authors discuss important basic concepts (such as the role of pigments) that must be considered when matching shades. The second chapter, "Elements Affecting Color," is of particular interest. This chapter describes potential factors that can influence the dental practitioner's color assessment. It discusses several variables that should be considered during

the shade-matching process and explains how to compensate for the effects that such variables have on color perception. It also mentions briefly the role of the selection of restorative material when trying to reproduce the best shade match.

Chapters 3–5 discuss the different protocols that may be applied in the shade-matching process. Chapter 3, "Conventional Shade Matching," takes the reader through each of the five steps involved in conventional shade-matching protocol, starting with analysis, then communication, interpretation, fabrication, and finally, verification. All procedures are comprehensively illustrated through the use of a single case study. This chapter also briefs the audience on some of the commonly used shade guide systems and highlights some of the considerations related to direct composite shade selection and layering techniques.

Chapter 4, "Technology-Based Shade Matching," introduces the reader to different types of technological shade systems that might help the dental practitioner establish a more precise shade match and better communication with the lab technician. These include the BGB devices, the spectrophotometers, and the colorimeter. The chapter describes the differences, advantages, and limitations of each type. A generalized step-by-step protocol is outlined and presented in an illustrated case study using one of the technological shade-matching systems (Shade Vision, X-Rite, Grandville, MI) for additional clarification. At the end of the chapter, in a clear and brief table, the authors summarize some of the technological shade systems available, while taking advantage of their experience with such instruments to point out some advantages and disadvantages of each.

Chapter 5, "Recommended Shade-Matching Protocol," presents the steps recommended by the authors for a successful shade-matching process. Their protocol combines both the conventional and the technology-based shade-matching approaches while using one approach to compensate for the limitations of another. Ten illustrated case studies in the appendix demonstrate this final

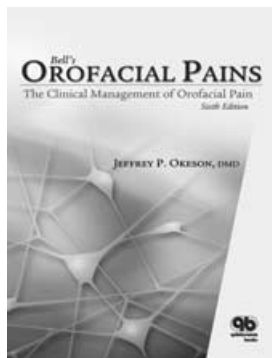
approach using one, two, and in some cases, three technological shade-matching systems in combination with the conventional approach. No clarification was provided on why certain technological systems were chosen over others.

One would certainly expect a book on color to be rather colorful and esthetically pleasing; this one more than fulfills the reader's expectations. The quality and clarity of the illustrations alone make this book of particular value, before even mentioning the various practical insights, instructions, and tips offered throughout the text in a very organized manner, which makes the information more applicable.

Although the book may lack the detail that some may be seeking (for instance, more information on the use of technological shade-matching systems), overall, the text is very well presented with a concise, informative, and easy-to-read style that provides a superb introduction to the understanding of a successful shade-matching process. In a time when patients are increasingly more demanding regarding esthetics, this book is well suited for practitioners interested in advancing their esthetic dentistry skills.

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**Bell's Orofacial Pains: The Clinical Management of Orofacial Pain, 6th edition**

*Jeffrey P. Okeson. Quintessence Publishing Co., Inc., Carol Stream, IL, 2005: ISBN 0-86715-439-X (592 pages; 223 illustrations; price \$78, hard cover)*

This is the sixth edition of Dr. Weldon Bell's classic text on orofacial pains and the second

authored by Dr. Okeson. Dr. Okeson assumed the responsibility for this monumental task from his friend and mentor before Dr. Bell's death in 1990. Since that time, Dr. Okeson has faithfully updated Dr. Bell's text producing initially a fifth, and now a sixth, edition. Dr. Okeson's credentials in this area are beyond reproach. His publications include his own textbook on the management of temporomandibular disorders and occlusion. He also directs a university-based orofacial pain center at the University of Kentucky and lectures throughout the world on the topics included in this text. His audiences include dental students, graduate students, researchers, and a wide variety of clinicians. It is from this wealth of experience and breadth of expertise that Dr. Okeson draws in assembling this current edition for the general practitioner, specialist, or for that matter, any practitioner involved with patients seeking relief for pains in and about the mouth and face—be they acute or chronic.

Specific stated goals for this edition were to: (1) supply information concerning pain—what it is, how it behaves, and the means to manage it; (2) develop a more useful classification of orofacial pain disorders; (3) offer practical diagnostic criteria to assist in the clinical diagnosis of these disorders; and (4) suggest guidelines for managing patients who suffer pain from these disorders. Special emphasis is placed throughout the text on understanding underlying mechanisms, as it is fundamental to the effective diagnosis and management of these disorders. The advances in research and patient care that are presented in this current edition are well supported by an extensive list of over 1600 references—nearly 600 new to this edition alone.

Like its predecessor, this edition is divided into three major sections. The first explores the nature of pain and the dental practitioner's responsibility for proper management of pains that manifest in and about the mouth, face, and neck. The six chapters in this section outline the nature of pain and the underlying mechanisms that can affect its expression. The author is able to take this very complex area and simplify it, explaining each component, each layer, in a logical and sequential manner. Updates in this section include the topics of nociceptors, ion channels and G-protein-linked channels, and the processing of pain at the brainstem level.

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