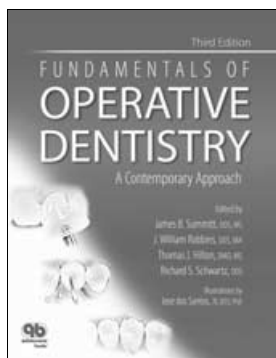


Book Reviews



Fundamentals of Operative Dentistry, Third Edition

Edited by James B. Summitt, J. William Robbins, Thomas J. Hilton, and Richard S. Schwartz. Quintessence Publishing Co., Ltd., Hanover Park, IL, 2006: ISBN 0-86715-452-7 (36 contributing authors; 612 pages; 1485 illustrations [604 color]; price \$95; hardcover)

The editors of this text, along with 36 contributing authors, have done a phenomenal job of creating a source of information that conveys scientifically based contemporary operative dentistry. The title may be somewhat of a misnomer, as the book goes far beyond the fundamentals of what is commonly thought of as operative dentistry. Upon examining this book, one will find that it is actually a compilation of research and techniques in restorative dentistry. Information is presented in a format that conveys the necessary fundamental information for dental students along with more detailed concepts for the experienced practitioner. Furthermore, the authors have done a very good job of citing their numerous references, and the text in many ways can actually serve as a literature review. Along with the informative and well-written text are numerous illustrations by Jose dos Santos, Jr., DDS, PhD. The images are of high quality, are nicely organized, and support the text quite well.

In the preface the editors state, "This textbook is about contemporary operative dentistry. It is a blend of traditional, time-proven methods and recent scientific developments." The focus of this

book is clear, and this is evident in its organization. Throughout a series of 20 chapters, the authors discuss the fundamentals of the subject matter and then build upon the fundamentals with recent advances. The text starts with a review of the biologic consideration as it relates to different areas of tooth structure. The authors also incorporate other disciplines, such as periodontology, and demonstrate how restorative dentistry is interconnected with these disciplines. A synopsis is provided with regard to biological width and its function within restorative care.

The presentation of operative dentistry in a synergistic relationship with other dental disciplines is quite evident in the first five chapters of the text. In addition to periodontology, the authors also present information related to treatment planning, esthetic considerations, caries management and diagnosis, and pulpal considerations. Within this first component of the text, the authors mention specifics on systematically completing dental examination and diagnosis and developing a legal dental record of the practitioner's findings. Since more and more patients are now driven to esthetic procedures, the authors present specific techniques and guidelines for completing an esthetic evaluation. Techniques and guidelines for incisal edge placement, gingival zenith, color, tooth proportions, and lip position are presented along with corresponding schematics and photos. Excellent photos, schematics, flow charts, and tables support the chapter on caries management and serve as an informative reference. In addition to looking at the biological aspects of the pulp, protocols for indirect and direct pulp capping are established. Two areas of improvement with this section would be the addition of color photos and more information on MTA (mineral trioxide aggregate) and its use in restorative dentistry.

Chapters 6 and 7 focus on nomenclature, instruments, and field isolation. These chapters present information in a detailed manner and the supporting diagrams and photos serve as good synopses of the information presented. In particular,

the author presents rubber dam isolation very well and demonstrates its clinical usefulness, establishing the importance of rubber dam isolation and citing evidence of its particular importance in resin bonding procedures. Furthermore, the author has designed this chapter to describe the methods of applying the rubber dam quickly, easily, and predictably.

Chapters 8–10 focus on bonding to enamel and dentin and its role in direct anterior and posterior restorations. The start of this section gives a very detailed analysis of the biology as it relates to bonding as well as clear information on the seven generations of adhesives. Once the science is established, the focus turns to techniques and materials involved in direct anterior and posterior restorations. Various matrix techniques and composite placement are described, and clinical photographs demonstrate their use. Specifically, the authors take the standpoint that an occlusal bevel is not indicated in any posterior resin restoration.

In Chapter 11 the authors present amalgam restorations with a contemporary viewpoint. A clear departure from G.V. Black is evident, and the focus is on conservative restorations even with the use of amalgam. Conservative Class I preparations along with Class II slot preparations make up the first half of the chapter. Schematics and photos accompany the text and help demonstrate the resistance and retention form necessary with these conservative preparations. As the chapter continues, the placement of pins along with amalgam bonding is presented in relation to complex amalgam restorations.

Root caries, various fluoride releasing materials, and Class V restorations are the focus of Chapters 12–14. Treatment protocols and diagnostic information are presented in a concise manner, specifically in a well-organized discussion of non-carious cervical lesions. In the future, one potential improvement to this text would be addition of the pros and cons of using amorphous calcium phosphate as it relates to caries prevention.

Chapters 15–18 delve beyond what is commonly thought of as traditional operative dentistry. These chapters focus on current concepts in natural tooth bleaching, porcelain veneers, anterior ceramic crowns, and esthetic inlays and onlays. The information focuses on esthetic protocols as they relate to preparation design. Furthermore, the authors are current in their presentation of materials ranging from feldspathic porcelain to

zirconium oxide copings using CAD/CAM technology. While the authors present more traditional methods of fabricating resin and porcelain partial coverage restorations, they also expound on the use of CAD/CAM technology, both in office and lab settings.

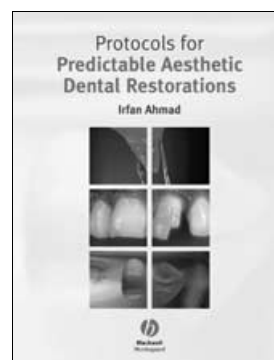
The final two chapters look at cast gold restorations and the restoration of endodontically treated teeth. The chapter on cast gold restorations offers step-by-step techniques of partial coverage restorations as well as information on cementation of cast restorations. The text concludes by looking at endodontically treated teeth and different restorative modalities. Indications for post-placement, post-space design, post material, custom dowel and core, and the use of buildup materials are discussed in this chapter.

As stated earlier, the editors and contributing authors have produced a text that goes beyond operative dentistry. This text would be excellent for dental students and would be an extraordinary reference text for the practicing restorative dentist. At a relatively low cost of \$95, it is worth every penny.

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Protocols for Predictable Aesthetic Dental Restorations

Edited by Irfan Ahmad. Blackwell Publishing Professional, Ames, IA, 2006: ISBN 1-4051-1820-2 (218 pages; color illustrations; price \$99.99; soft cover)

Providing predictable esthetic dental restorations can be a challenging task because of their

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