



Nordic Dentistry 2003 Yearbook

Edited by Dr. Lone Schou
Quintessence Copenhagen 2003

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Review

It was a pleasure to flip through Quintessence's first Nordic Dentistry 2003 Yearbook, and to dip into some of its 208 pages. I guess many readers will share my reading pattern. Most probably, this is not a book to read at one sitting, but rather a book to return to on several occasions. The book's compact format makes it handy to bring along, and the illustrations are excellent in quality and number (220 color + 30 b/w plates).

Dr Lone Schou is editor and Drs Anders Nattestad and Rolf Attström are editorial consultants. It is my firm assumption that this trio will also strongly influence the choice of topics and authors in the future, and I feel comfortable with their subjective selections.

The book contains 11 chapters – six under 'Practice', and five under 'Research and Education'. In addition, there is a handy 40-page Directory and Calendar. Advertisements fill 15 pages.

The Practice part of the book begins with a chapter on clinical cases by Sverker Toreskog and Claes Myrin. They apply minimal invasiveness when restoring teeth with superthin, bonded porcelain – a cookbook of selected cases. The following chapter by Orloff & Winkler addresses ethics behind esthetics and also clarifies the difference between cosmetics and esthetics. A minor comment relates to their misuse of the term "piercing" when presenting bonding of ornaments or orthodontic appliances – no big deal.

In their chapter, orthodontists Drs Perregard & Holmqvist-Larsen describe their view on interdisciplinary dentistry. We are given the opportunity to follow their collaboration with a periodontist and a prosthodontist. They incorrectly use the non-existing English terms parodontology, parodontitis and parodontologist. This comment may sound like an academic grumbling over details, and of course, it should be seen in a global perspective. However, language and correct terminology has been recognized as being of the ut-

most importance – not least in communication with colleagues and patients. In the next chapter, Henrik Lovschall presents a critical review of lasers in dentistry. The author concludes that more clinical studies on lasers are needed. Until then, this critical survey may be of great help to the clinician.

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons Dr Pekka Laine and Riitta Suuronen explore the issues surrounding systemically compromised patients in their chapter "Not enough bone – are dental implants possible?" Finally, in the Practice section, Dr Hans Preus gives strategies for treating periodontal diseases. Despite its many thought-provoking suggestions, this chapter differs in several aspects – amongst other things, it is the only chapter in the yearbook without scientific references.

The Research and Education section begins with dental education, authored by the two editorial consultants Nattestad & Attström. Both are internationally recognized experts, particularly in the field of information technology and dental education. If you want a glimpse of the future now, just read this chapter.

The editors are also to be congratulated, and the readers privileged to have access to an international authority like Irma Thesleff, the author of the chapter on developmental biology. I find it very attractive to introduce basic biology in this context. It is indeed all-round education based on current views on how to build a tooth.

The next chapter by Pedersen, Nauntofte, Reibel & Bergmann deals with a topic of current interest – interactions between oral and general health. Is dental caries an infectious disease? This question is addressed in the following chapter by Fejerskov & Nyvad. Finally, Dr Vallittu presents the concept of minimal invasive prosthodontics using fiber-reinforced composites.

There is no doubt that this yearbook is well worth reading.

Björn Klinge