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Implant overdentures: The standard of care for edentulous patients

J.S. Feine, G.E. Carlsson
UK: Quintessence
price £40, pp 172
ISBN 0867154306

This book is a compilation of the 15 papers presented at an important international Symposium in Canada in 2002 on the topic of two-implant mandibular overdentures. There are 14 chapters by 23 contributors from a number of countries. The book is edited by two of these contributors, Jocelyne Feine and Gunnar Carlsson.

The early chapters cover demographic trends, the effect of tooth loss and subsequent treatment on nutrition, the impact of edentulism on general health, and patient preferences and expectations. Later chapters cover aspects of two-implant mandibular overdenture treatment including comparisons with conventional dentures, cost of treatment, choice of implant systems, treatment strategies, indications and treatment planning, attachment systems, and loading strategies. Chapter 10 deserves special mention as it is the only one with a discussion of the evidence relating to maxillary implant dentures as well as to mandibular implant dentures. Much of the material has already been published but has been cleverly brought together by each contributor.

There are occasional departures from the Symposium's philosophy of evidence-based decisions and practice. An example of this occurs in Chapter 13 which contains a comprehensive description of the clinical stages involved in placing two mandibular implants as a single stage procedure followed by the construction of the overdenture. The caption for Figures 13-5 and 13-6 states that it is important for a line joining the two mandibular implants to be parallel to a line joining the retromolar pads. There was no evidence for this statement and I was surprised to note that the authors did not follow their own advice – the implant analogues illustrated in Figure 13-35 are clearly asymmetrical. In fact, this very

question is addressed in Chapter 10: there really is no evidence to support the concept.

There also seems to be some uncertainty as to where the two mandibular implants should be placed. In Chapter 13, the authors opt for the canine region whereas in Chapter 9, the author presents a good case for the lateral incisor region. Fortunately, the definitive answer is again in Chapter 10 where we are advised that the choice of implant site should be governed by the size and curvature of the anterior arch.

Contrary to what you might think, these inconsistencies actually heighten interest and will encourage the reader to look for answers based on evidence.

The book ends with the McGill Consensus Statement that the treatment of choice for a patient with an edentulous mandible should be a two-implant overdenture rather than a conventional denture. The evidence presented in the rest of the book is overwhelming, although the Statement should perhaps be qualified in that most of the evidence pertains to situations where the opposing maxilla is also edentulous and restored with a complete denture without implants.

I enjoyed reading this book and can recommend it to anyone who has an interest in implant overdentures. At £40, it is an inexpensive way of obtaining the material presented at the Symposium. Every postgraduate student in prosthodontics should have access to the book but it probably covers the subject in a greater depth than an undergraduate dental student would need. I was delighted to have the opportunity of adding it to my bookshelf.

B.J. Smith

Immediate loading in implant dentistry: surgical, prosthetic, occlusal and laboratory aspects

V. Jiménez-López
UK: Quintessence
price £125, pp 278
ISBN 848987333X

With the rapid progression of implant techniques, immediate implant loading is at

the cutting edge of where we are taking our patients. Shortening the time between implant placement and loading the implant is taking osseointegration to new frontiers.

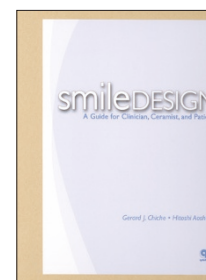
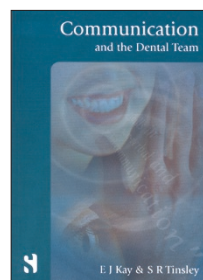
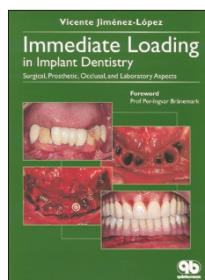
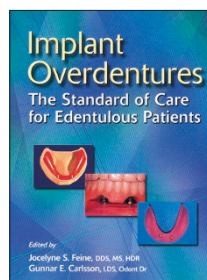
This book sets out rules to explain the considerations for immediate loading, stressing the need for advanced knowledge in implant dentistry. It deals with the many immediate loading options, from single maxillary or mandibular incisor implant placement, to complete maxillary rehabilitation. These are discussed and followed up with various case studies.

Surgical techniques for immediate loading of single teeth are discussed in detail, ranging from those sites with adequate height and width of bone – to the more difficult cases following tooth extraction and loss of labial bone. Many interesting and thought-provoking cases are described, for example using two implants to mimic the root of a molar tooth to give more stability. Several factors are discussed when considering immediate loading of hybrid prostheses in the mandible, including the idea of placing more implants. Countersinking is not recommended, as the implant needs to be embedded in cortical bone. All treatments described are supported by excellent photographs, which make the book user-friendly.

Chapter five deals with implant loading with overdentures and mandibular hybrid prosthesis. Fixed hybrid prostheses are explained extensively, from the making of the surgical stent impressions and bite registration to the final screw retained prostheses. Again, all the stages are well illustrated photographically.

The author also describes the Brånemark Novum surgical and prosthetic procedure for mandibular immediate loading. Although the Brånemark Novum procedure is time efficient, the technique is complex and should only be carried out by experienced implantologists.

Immediate implant loading in patients with completely edentulous maxilla is detailed, and the importance of patient selection and clinical evaluation. Patients must be in good health and there should be sufficient bone to place at least six implants of 10 mm or greater in length.



The author warns that although immediate loading in the maxilla has advantages, there are greater demands on the surgeon and technician. Laboratory solutions are considered to achieve the final goal of a passive fit. The procedures range from the design of the alloy structure and selection of the recovering material to milled procrera prosthesis. Screw-retained superstructures and infrastructures are also covered.

I found the final chapter very useful in dealing with the occlusal aspects of immediate loading. Occlusion in single tooth replacement and complete maxillary mandibular fixed rehabilitation are discussed and the use of night guards recommended. I would highly recommend this book for your implant library.

R. Sennett

Communication and the dental team

E.J. Kay, S.R. Tinsley
UK: Stephen Hancocks Ltd
price £23.95, pp 150
ISBN 0954614518

This is a revised version of the first edition of this book. The aim of this version is to make the text more accessible to the whole of the dental team and encourage them to place the patient at the heart of the practice.

The book describes itself as an 'essential guide' and is a slim A5 size volume, which I found could be easily read in a couple of hours. The language used is at times slightly colloquial but acronyms and jargon are carefully avoided so the text is uncomplicated.

The 12 chapters include *First impressions*, *Neuro-linguistic programming*, *Assertiveness without aggression* and *What worries patients about dentistry* and are a good introduction to the numerous topics relating to good communication.

The final chapter gives a series of case histories where management of the cases are suggested based on information in the book, illustrating how the information can be applied in practice.

I found the book very informative and extremely relevant to dental practice today.

It whetted my appetite for the topic and I found myself wanting to find out about the subject in greater depth. The authors have anticipated this and useful suggestions for further reading are given at the end of each chapter.

Each topic is illustrated with practical examples and there are even activities suggested to try and improve the readers' communication skills. I found myself becoming quite absorbed and even read particularly interesting bits of the text out to other people in the office.

I would recommend this text to all the dental team, no matter how long they have been practising. The importance of communication is a topic which is often forgotten and this book reminds readers that its significance to a successful dental practice should not be underestimated.

A. Ireland

Smile design: A guide for clinician, ceramist and patient

G.J. Chiche, H. Aoshima
UK: Quintessence
price £72, pp 112
ISBN 0867154357

This well illustrated book is a further addition to the growing volumes dedicated to the field of aesthetic dentistry. The authors are very well respected within their subject areas and it is always refreshing to see an example of close collaboration between clinician and dental ceramist.

The theme of this succinct book centres on effective communication between clinician, patient and dental ceramist. For the clinician, understanding each patient's individual needs and then successfully communicating this information to the dental ceramist is crucial to a successful outcome. In the form of various illustrated before and after treatment cases this book essentially serves as a visual guide for patients, a communication guide for the clinician and a visual base and communication guide for the dental ceramist.

The layout is clear and concise with the authors introducing the ABC/I system highlighting what they consider to be the four key elements of the smile:

alignment, brightness, character, and incisal effects. As with many Quintessence books the illustrations are beautifully reproduced and perfectly composed demonstrating the enclosed ceramic artwork to its optimum. The authors conclude the first part of the book by focusing on what they consider to be the five elements of a youthful smile: central incisor dominance, proper brightness, a convex smile line, a pleasing length and an adequate fullness. Many of the finished anterior ceramic restorations in the mouth are delightfully framed by gleaming red lipstick which we can hopefully assume belong to Chiche's female patients!

The remaining part of the book concentrates on the application of the ABC/I smile design system when applied to various clinical situations. Each example has essential information, for communication purposes, condensed into four categories covering patient objectives, aesthetic objectives, shade selection and smile design. Over 40 clinical cases all involving laboratory intensive ceramic work are shown with many cases also highlighting a multidisciplinary approach engaging colleagues from orthodontics and periodontology. The ceramic work achieved by Hitoshi Aoshima is clearly of an enviable standard of which any dental ceramist reading this book would be proud to achieve.

While there is definitely something for the patient, clinician and dental ceramist within this book, what is not easy to judge is if there is sufficient content to consider its purchase. I suspect that the main area of use will focus around the clinician who is attempting to communicate fully with patients the various smile designs that can be achieved. For those colleagues engaged at this level of dental ceramic aesthetic dentistry this book will be of value.

P. King