Highly recommended…

Reviewer from US University marks handbook “made in Germany”

European authors know it well: dental science publications which are widely recognized in their home country and intended for international distribution are not automatically met with the same interest and enthusiasm abroad. For instance, authors at 65 university dental schools in the USA alone annually release an overwhelming flood of publications, so that new books from “across the pond” naturally have a hard time attracting attention, let alone finding their way into private practices.

“All-Ceramics at a Glance”, which first appeared in English in 2007, was based on the German ceramic handbook „Vollkeramik auf einen Blick“, and was updated in 2017 as the “3rd English Edition”. Thanks to great international demand, it has now been reprinted in 2018 (Figs 1-2).

Fig. 1-2: Guideline for the clinical and technical standardization of all-ceramic treatment solutions in the practice. Source: Society for Dental Ceramics (AG Keramik)

Despite certain differences between Europe and the USA, particularly in applications of prosthetics technology, it is evident that the Handbook fulfills its purpose: to clinically and technically standardize all-ceramic restoration world-wide in order to sustainably ensure restoration quality. With its recommendations on the selection of materials, indications, clinical steps, application techniques, luting methods etc., this guideline has succeeded in clearly presenting and comprehensibly conveying the procedures for manipulating the various materials in restorative and prosthetic dentistry.

Aside from the German editions, the international versions, which have meanwhile been published as French, English, Japanese, Korean, and – as excerpts –Chinese editions, provide proof of the widespread acceptance of the ceramics handbook. In a book review published in the “Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry”, Paola C. Sapanaro, DDS, Assistant Clinical Professor, Division of Restorative Science and
Prosthodontics at the College of Dentistry, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA, critiqued the 3rd English Edition: “I highly recommend this book for the readership. The authors have appropriately described why certain clinical and laboratory steps must be followed and that have proven successful in the long term.” This accolade for the Handbook has established its recognition in US-American dentistry.

Co-author Prof. Van P. Thompson, King’s College London Dental Institute and New York University College of Dentistry, under whose linguistic auspices the guideline was edited, has exhibited his feel for both the idiomatic language usage and therapeutic-technical concerns of English-speaking dentists.

Fig. 3: Occlusal surfaces of monolithic lithium disilicate (1 mm thickness) to restore anatomical occlusal surfaces according to functional morphological principles. Source: Edelhoff

Where therapeutic procedures are currently undergoing changes, particularly concerning functionally corrective occlusal veneers (Fig. 3) and implantology/implant prosthetics, co-authors from several universities have provided detailed illustrations, accompanied by case reports. For instance, implant-borne hybrid abutment crowns (Figs 4-5) and titanium bases for stabilizing the lithium-disilicate ceramic mesostructure are introduced to the international professional public.

Fig. 4-5: Endosseous, screw-retained hybrid abutment of lithium disilicate with finished emergence profile (left) and hybrid abutment crown adhesively luted in situ. Source: Ivoclar Vivadent / AG Keramik
Technique-sensitive adhesive luting is explained and illustrated step-by-step. Flowcharts for the various ceramic systems show the specially indicated adhesive preparations and adjuvants as well as the implementation in chronological order. For the practician, the tabular presentation of treatment steps in itself enormously facilitates the definitive insertion of restorations.

A chapter is devoted to the new hybrid materials, e.g., ceramic-reinforced CAD/CAM composites. With their E-moduli similar to that of dentin, they set a counterpoint to the “super hard” oxide ceramics, and offer new solutions for implant-borne crowns as well as options for treating bruxism patients.

After finishing this highly comprehensible book, the dentist feels up-to-date and knows exactly where to look up what as needed.

In terms of contents, “All-Ceramics at a Glance” (3rd edition) and the German version „Vollkeramik auf einen Blick“ (6th edition) are identical, and are available at the AG Keramik office or specialist bookstores.

Manfred Kern – Secretary to Society for Dental Ceramics (AG Keramik)


Contact address:
AG Keramik
Postfach 11 60
D-76308 Malsch, Germany
info@ag-keramik.de www.ag-keramik.de