

Preface

This is not a textbook of aesthetic dentistry, nor is it a textbook that discusses symptoms of temporomandibular disorders. This is a book about principles applicable to prosthodontic treatments, monitoring changes occurring within the dentition and most occlusal therapies.

The strategies that are discussed in this book have universal validity for restorative treatment of the single tooth as well as for extensive prosthetic rehabilitations. The principles are mainly illustrated by tooth supported prostheses, but are equally valid for implant supported restorations and for removable prostheses.

Many totally or partially edentulous patients have attained a better and more worthwhile life due to dental implants. However, treatment with implants does not always become the final solution that patients and therapist have hoped for. Tooth survival is better than that of implants, and this is even true for teeth with a reduced periodontal attachment. Several studies have also shown a higher occurrence of technical complications for implant supported restorations than for tooth supported ones, and the original parts of the dentition have definitely not played out their role.

The best thing to do is to use one's knowledge to safeguard the dentition rather than performing prosthetic treatments. How a dentition can best be safeguarded and how a harmonious function can be created and maintained represent areas that are rarely contained in undergraduate training. This book may therefore fill

a gap.

The Swedish dentist to the royal court Dr. Odont. (hc) Henry Beyron (1909 – 1992) has contributed with his great knowledge about the function of the dentition and the biomechanical principles that apply for occlusal rehabilitations. His articles were published in Sweden as well as internationally, and he was in his time particularly highly regarded. In later years implant dentistry and aesthetic dentistry have received a great part of the professional interest among clinicians. Consequently, knowledge of biomechanics of the occlusion has gradually declined. However, the requirements of the dentition, the single tooth and the biomaterials for a biomechanical platform are as high today as they were 40 years ago, and Henry Beyron's treatment philosophy is still valid. The biomaterials and methods may change, but the masticatory apparatus functions according to the same principles.

In this book we illustrate with numerous clinical examples how we – with our combined 78 years of “well-tried experience” – have applied Henry Beyron's principles clinically. With directly applicable methods and tips we hope to share the enthusiasm we ourselves feel for the subject, perhaps encourage a discussion and – not least – contribute to safer prosthetic treatments in the compromised dentition.

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