

Esthetic Soft Tissue Management of Teeth and Implants

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The Value of a Smile

A smile costs nothing, but gives much.

It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give.

It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever.

None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor, but that he can be made rich by it.

A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friendship.

It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature's best antidote for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone, until it is given away.

Some people are too tired to give you a smile;

Give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as he who has no more to give.

Frederick William Faber

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Foreword

This volume addresses an area that should be of concern to the dental profession: the patient's smile. Dr. André Saadoun has attempted to demonstrate the importance of an esthetic smile to the patient and how this may be influenced by the soft tissue management of teeth and dental implants.

The author has analyzed the constituents of the smile and has addressed the various options that can result in the improvement of an individual's self-image by producing changes in those tissues. This carefully prepared text contains a thorough review of the literature of the past five decades and has applied those contributions to therapy in treating natural teeth as well as dental implants. It is gratifying to see that an emphasis is placed on the preservation of the natural dentition in health and function, and when the clinician has to replace hopeless teeth, the care necessary to improve the prognosis of implants. The advances in periodontal therapy are cited and described in some detail. This book should be of keen interest to all clinicians who are involved in oral health, which includes treating teeth and implants.

To date, there have been few attempts in the literature to correlate treatment of teeth and dental implants with their impact on the patient's smile.

The illustrations strengthen the editorial material and are well done. The reader will be stimulated to discuss the patient's smile with them during the examination phase of treatment. Helping the patient to understand the influence of oral treatment on improving their smile becomes a significant responsibility for the diagnostician and therapist.

This volume should partner with other texts that delve into periodontal and restorative treatment in great detail. Dr. Saadoun brings together the various specialties in dental medicine in a coherent fashion. There are many areas in the oral cavity, such as dental biotypes, that play an important role in decision-making by the dentist as one prepares to establish an esthetic smile. It is also clear that a patient's gratitude for an improved smile will benefit the therapist who has devoted great effort and time to studying and effecting this esthetic improvement.

The author should be complimented for putting the material into one volume, material that belongs on the shelf of every dentist.

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