

Vimal K Sikri: Textbook of Conservative and Restorative Dentistry. 1st Edition. 2019

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Textbook of Conservative and Restorative Dentistry authored by “Dr. Vimal K Sikri”, a renowned academician for over 3 decades, receiving much acclaim and appreciation from the students, teachers and clinicians, presents the updated version of the current concepts of conservative and restorative dentistry. The book is based on the valuable suggestions given by the contemporary teachers and students all over the world, coupled with newer developments in the field of restorative dentistry.

Conservative dentistry as the name suggests is a branch of dentistry involving minimum removal of healthy tooth structure during the restorative process. The hard tissues i.e. natural enamel and dentine are still the best existing dental material. Hence, art and science of conservative dentistry involves minimally invasive procedures with an objective to conserve more of the original, healthy tooth structure [1].

It was in 18th century that the subject of “Conservative Dentistry”, one of the oldest branches of dental surgery came into picture with a wide horizon. The book on “Operative Dentistry” as in the year 1889 involved subjects like oral surgery and fixed dental prosthetics too [2]. Fortunately, with the passage of time, the current era of dentistry witnessed development of various innovative materials, techniques and instruments. As of today and in near future, we are gradually moving from “Conservative” to “Ultraconservative” dentistry”, making it a reality.

Usually, as per curriculum devised by the Dental Council of India (DCI), the subject of “Conservative Dentistry” is taught in various dental schools of the country. Conversely, in other parts of the globe, the subject of “Restorative Dentistry” has been described and taught

as “Conservative Dentistry”. Restorative dentistry is the art and science that involves the study, diagnosis and integrated management of diseases of the teeth and their supporting structures and the rehabilitation of the dentition to functional and aesthetic requirements of the individual. This branch of dentistry has a very wide arena thereby encompassing the dental specialties i.e. endodontics, periodontics and prosthodontics and its foundation is based upon how these interact in cases requiring multifaceted care [3].

The text, discussed in 34 chapters, covers the syllabi of all the Indian universities. The recent concepts have been highlighted in all the chapters, especially the chapters on Dentin hybridization (Bonding), Composites, Lasers, Diagnosis and Diagnostic aids and Minimal Invasive Dentistry, keeping in mind their clinical significance in day-to-day practice.

Written in a lucid language, the text is replete with self-explanatory photographs and diagrams, well reinforced with clinical photographs for easy understanding of the subject. The keynotes are presented in box format for quick access and easy understanding. The Textbook is a ‘must-read’ for all the dental students, teachers, as well as the practitioners pursuing restorative dentistry as a career.

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