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June 2005

from Gregory Tarantola DDS



Greetings!

Tarantola Dental Learning is dedicated to helping dentists and their team of staff, specialists and technicians learn and apply the principles of comprehensive, masticatory system dentistry in a relationship-based environment. That means promoting and maintaining optimal health, function and esthetics of all the components of the masticatory system, that is, the TMJs, the neuromuscular system, the dentition, the periodontium and occlusal bio-engineering. And accomplishing this in a way that is appropriate for that particular patient, that is, with their interest and active participation.

Remember this formula for "Peace Of Mind" in your practice:

NP (or EP)+E+D+TP+TS+CA=PS

New Patient (or Existing Patient)+Examination+Diagnosis+ Treatment Planning+Treatment Sequencing+Case Acceptance=Predictable Success

Thanks to Charles W Martin, DDS, MAGD, DICOI, FIADFE LeadershipMastermindCoaching.com for suggesting the enhancements to the above formula for success.

This month's inspirational quotes:

"Try not to become a man of success but rather try to become a man of value. "

Albert Einstein, 1879-1955, German-born American Physicist

"You cannot dream yourself into a character; you must hammer and forge yourself one."

James A. Froude, 1818-1894, English Historian

"The tougher the times, the more clarity you gain about the difference between what really matters and what you only pretend to care about."

Po Bronson, Best-Selling Author of "What Should I Do With My Life?"

Thought For The Month

Past "Thoughts For The Month" Are Now Conveniently Archived For Easy Review



Integrity: doing what is right, no matter what.

It means doing the right thing regardless of circumstances or benefits to the leader or the organization. It means doing the right thing even if no one is looking.

Dr. Pankey motivated us to eliminate the errors of omission and commission. Omission - not doing what we know is right. Commission - doing what we know is not right.

As this month's quotes say, that is one way we define our character and values and really find out what is important to us. This month's article brings the point home quite nicely.

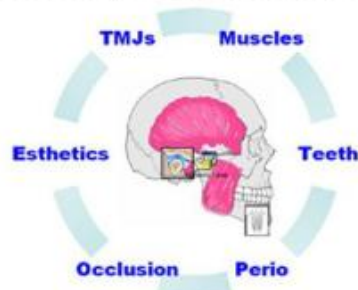
- [Go to the article.](#)

SELF-STUDY LEARNING CDs

Multimedia...interactive...interesting...effective AND now approved for AGD CE credit



COMPREHENSIVE, RELATIONSHIP-BASED DENTISTRY



COMFORT, FUNCTION, HEALTH AND ESTHETICS
WITH STABILITY AND LONGEVITY
OF THE ENTIRE MASTICATORY SYSTEM

**NOW PACE APPROVED
FOR 28 HOURS OF
ACADEMY OF GENERAL
DENTISTRY CONTINUING
EDUCATION CREDITS**

Enjoy the peace of mind and fulfillment of practicing comprehensive-care, relationship-based, masticatory system dentistry! These **SELF-STUDY LEARNING MODULES ON CD** are a great way to learn and implement masticatory system principles and to connect with the patient so they become an appreciative partner with us. The learning modules are very visual, the text is to-the-point outline style, and the photo table of contents is linked to every page making it extremely easy to navigate and refer back to over and over. You'll find it a GREAT

value...and of course, with a money-back guarantee!

"How often have you gone to a continuing education course and wished that you were

back in your own office doing dentistry? How many times have you sat through hours upon hours of lectures only to get one pearl of information that took mere seconds to dispense? What if there was a way to get quality condensed information delivered to your door that you would be able to watch on your computer? Now, what if I told you that you could, and the answer was Tarantola Dental Learning CD-ROMs?" Dr. H.F., DDS, MBA

We all learn in different ways. These modules are very visual and not a lot of text to read. If you are already in a course of study, you need these CDs to complement your learning.

For the month of June, we will continue to include the "Management Workbook" and "Vision Workbook" with the purchase of the Complete Set or Case Study Guide.

- [Click here to see the Learning Modules](#)

JUNE CLINICAL TIP

Past "Clinical Tips" Now Conveniently Archived For Easy Review



Test your diagnostic skills on this interesting case

Many times the role that occlusal interferences may be playing in our patient's signs and symptoms may not be obvious. A casual observation of their nearly ideal looking maximum intercuspation may falsely lull us into the misconception that their occlusion may not be a factor.

Until you get the condyles seated and then observe their jaw-to-jaw and tooth-to-tooth relationships. A totally different story is told.

- [Click here to see the JUNE CLINICAL TIP](#)

"THE CASE STUDY TREATMENT PLANNING GUIDE"

The practical, everyday application of masticatory system dentistry



"Wonderful to learn how a master comprehensive dentist thinks through a case- the monthly newsletter is great, but I have found the new case study CD a compact, in depth source of learning. "

"I'm loving the Case Study Guide! Wonderful- This is a tremendous resource for all of us out here who don't have a number of complex

cases cooking at any one time and are actively learning from each of them as we hone our skills. As we tackle increasingly more complex cases, it boosts my confidence in outcomes!"

A collection of over 30 fully documented cases. History; exam; photos; casts; radiographs; diagnosis; the diagnostic blueprint to include an outline of all 10 decisions to make when blueprinting; treatment plan; treatment sequence; provisionals; the definitive case. A wide variety of cases are included.

When you have a perplexing case, you most likely will find a similar case in this collection to help you in your decision making. It shows with real life, practical cases, the application of the principles of the comprehensive approach.

There is also a new tutorial included that covers the keys to restorative success: Planning-Execution- Communication. You will find clinical tips throughout that will enhance your cause-effect understanding and how to deal with it at the planning stages.

As a bonus, the pertinent occlusal scientific literature of 2004 is summarized. 31 references and abstracts included for your review. Yearly updates including new cases and current literature will be offered .

As Steven Covey says in his book *The 8th Habit*, the road from effectiveness to significance is paved with this challenge, "Learn, Do, Teach". In other words, you not only have to LEARN it, you must DO it, that is put that knowledge into action. Then, to REALLY learn, you need to tell or teach someone else. By doing this step, you learn the material even better as you consolidate and clarify your thoughts in a way that you can convey it understandably to someone else.

This Case Study CD has a special challenge to help you implement "Learn, Do, Teach" and move from effectiveness to significance. Those who accept and complete the challenge will have their own case study published in a new, upcoming section of Tarantola Dental Learning - "Case Studies From Our Readers".

For the month of June, we will continue to include the "Management Workbook" and "Vision Workbook" with the purchase of the Complete Set or Case Study Guide.

- [Click here to see THE CASE STUDY TREATMENT PLANNING GUIDE](#)

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS SUBMITTED FROM MAY'S CLINICAL TIP

What provisional technique do you use?

There are many excellent materials and techniques, both direct and indirect. I prefer the indirect technique whereby an accurate impression of the preparations in the mouth is made and poured in a fast setting stone such as StatStone. A putty index is made from the diagnostic wax-up. I have used Motloid ColdPac for 15 years and has the properties I desire. It has an extended working time desirable for the indirect technique, is durable, fracture resistant, very color stable and highly polishable.

COMMENT FROM A READER: What really jumps out at me is the shiny spots

on the amalgams on the left side. That tells me that the system is not stable. But, how can we know when the condylar changes have slowed or stopped??

One of our tasks as a diagnostician is to look for signs of instability as you have pointed out. Bite splint therapy is a good test of joint stability as assessed through the stability or lack of stability of the occlusion on the splint over an appropriate period of time. Stability of occlusion of the splint say for 4- 6 months is a good indicator of TMJ stability.

How well do the composite additions on incisal edges hold up over time?

I am continually amazed at the stability. The materials available to us are getting better and better. I firmly believe that the correct, smooth, atraumatic function is primary and the materials are secondary. I have seen lower incisor composites function against upper porcelain crowns for years. Plus it is conservative. Often it may seem excessive to cut teeth for crowns or even veneers so composite is a good alternative. It is easy to "refresh" as necessary. Obviously we also need to explain the rationale to our patient.

What is your rationale for the Galvano copings?

When there are questionable teeth and they are important abutments yet the patient cannot pursue an implant approach for medical reasons, as an example, the retrievability of a coping case has benefits. The Galvano copings are .3mm thick so overcontouring is not an big issue. If an endodontic treatment needs to be done, the over structure can be removed and the endo done through the coping, thereby not compromising the overstructure. If implants are a future possibility, the retrievability makes it easier to plan and sequence. In other words, there should be a rationale for retrievability.

It is interesting that the two patients you showed last month with condylar degeneration had no joint pain or other symptoms. Can you comment?

It is about each individual patient's adaptive capacity. Fibrous tissue can form a pseudo-disc and function very much like a normal disc, although crepitation will be heard upon crepitation. If the pseudo-disc perforates, the condylar head can become hard and ivory like and function without pain. And be very quiet upon auscultation. It is very important to engineer a minimal stress, physiologic occlusion that decreases the mechanical advantage to TMJ structures.

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"TIE" IT ALL TOGETHER

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