Implantology in transition

Professor Daniel Wismeijer, Chairman of the Department of Oral Implantology of the Academisch Centrum Tandheelkunde Amsterdam (ACTA), had invited to a symposium on a new root-analog immediate implant that reduces the surgical risks and is a patient-friendly alternative to the traditional approach. The event was held under the motto of “Implantology is about to radically change — find out why”. The digital world has no borders, and exciting innovations meet with interest everywhere in the world. The speakers reported on their clinical experience with the Replicate system. Two live surgeries demonstrated how these patient-specific immediate implants are inserted.

The conference had been organized by the Department of Oral Surgery of the joint dental faculty (ACTA) of Amsterdam’s two leading universities and by Natural Dental Implants (Berlin, Germany). The ACTA, with its state-of-the-art facilities and its futuristic ambience, is certainly unique in Europe. Although the symposium had originally been geared to a German or Dutch audience, attendees ultimately hailed from eleven different countries. Professor Daniel Wismeijer kicked off the event with his keynote speech, explaining that the traditional implant design had changed only minimally over the past decades. He suggested trying new approaches and being open to new ideas and pioneering technologies.

Dr David Anssari Moin, a research associate at the ACTA, reported on indications and factors for success for the Replicate system based on various case studies. The presentation by Dr John Blythe, oral and maxillofacial surgeon from London, United Kingdom, focused on patient satisfaction — especially in connection with the aesthetic results that can be achieved with this atraumatic and minimally invasive procedure. He said he kept being impressed by the simplicity of the procedure, which was quite unlike the very complex surgical reconstructions he usually faced.

Live surgeries transmitted from the OT showed the simple, rapid and precise handling that characterize the Replicate system. The two-rooted premolar and the three-rooted molar that Dr Anssari Moin had chosen were not exactly examples of simple root anatomies, but they impressively documented the system’s broad range of indications. The team of Dr Reza Saeidi Pour, research associate at the University of Munich, and Dr Burkart Zuch, dentist in Hamburg, both Germany, demonstrated aesthetic highlights in the anterior region. Exhibiting impressive didactic skills, the two of them walked the audience through the procedure, showing how this technology and a very gentle extraction method not only preserved the hard and soft tissues but actually significantly improved the soft-tissue situation — sometimes even creating a tissue excess.

The following speaker, Dr Olivier Beckers from the University of Brussels, Belgium, addressed the same subject. He felt that it was better “to preserve what is there rather than spending a lot of time and energy on replacing what was lost.” Dr Dirk Duddeck, director of the Clean Implant Foundation and a
A guest researcher at the Charité University Medicine in Berlin, presented a comparative clinical assessment of the technological features of the Replicate system and conventional implant systems. He emphasized the quality and purity of the implant surface, the absolutely gap-free connections, plasma activation and cleaning, the super-hydrophilic properties and the high-quality sealed packaging. Here, too, the Replicate system scored. The symposium was concluded with a collegial get-together.

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