NobelClinician® is now available in a new format that comprises a multi-license package, which can be tailored to your specific needs.

In order to make your practice more efficient and successful, Nobel Biocare is now delivering the NobelClinician Practice Setup. Whether you work in a small or a large clinic, have your own (CB)CT scanner or simply want to improve collaboration between team members, this package sets your practice up for success.

The software can be adapted to your specific needs, so you get the solution that works best for your practice. The entire team can now access NobelClinician at any computer in the clinic or remotely via NobelConnect, giving them the virtual tools they need to support treatment. What’s more, with this setup, all NobelClinician data is automatically stored in one location, making it easy to back up. For more information: nobelbiocare.com/practicesetup
Computers Help Dental Implants Look Natural

An article in the current issue of the Journal of Oral Implantology describes a simple method to recreate what is known as the mouth’s “emergence profile” with implants. It presents step-by-step procedures that the authors used successfully in the clinic and laboratory for 50 implants.

The current study looks at 50 cases of implants with custom abutments made of titanium and zirconia, two commonly used materials. Abutments connect the replacement tooth to the body of the implant. Customising their design allows surgeons to create a more natural tooth-emergence profile for each patient.

The simple computerised technique provided a precise fit, and it was less expensive and had better accuracy than conventional techniques. To replicate their success, they noted that the process should be well planned before surgery and the implants should be placed accurately. In addition, the surgeon needs to be careful when working with the soft tissue in the patient’s mouth and insert temporary crowns properly. All patients were satisfied with how the implants looked. Full text of the article “Esthetic Considerations for Reconstructing Implant Emergence Profile Using Titanium and Zirconia Custom Implant Abutments: Fifty Case Series Report,” is available in the October issue of the Journal of Oral Implantology.

UMC Utrecht discovers genetic cause of Disturbed dental development

Researchers at University Medical Center (UMC) Utrecht have identified a gene that may cause oligodontia, the agenesis of six or more teeth. The discovery of the so-called LPR6 gene makes it possible to diagnose patients more effectively, providing them with better information and develop customised treatment. Oligodontia is a rare but serious congenital anomaly defined by the absence of six or more permanent teeth. Children usually develop milk teeth at a young age, but when their permanent teeth start to erupt, it becomes clear that something is wrong. In several places, no adult teeth come in. In Europe, this condition affects 14 out of every 10,000 people. At the Center of Excellence in Congenital Oropharyngeal Anomalies, housed at UMC Utrecht, dentists, oral surgeons, plastic surgeons and orthodontists collaborate in a multidisciplinary setting with clinical geneticists of the Department of Medical Genetics. During a single visit, dental problems are assessed, the patient—and/or parents—are given an explanation of DNA research and are presented with the offer to use it. Based on the findings of the dentist and clinical geneticist, specific genetic research is possible. Van den Boogaard adds, “Most patients want to know the cause. Why does it develop? Will my children get it as well? And what is the risk of this happening?” This new research provides better insight into the biology of tooth development. The LPR6 gene is now included in the DNA diagnostics of oligodontia, enabling us to give patients a better diagnosis and to provide better information and to develop customised treatment.”


Study suggests many dental Implants may be prone to fracture

An examination of 100 biologically failed dental implants has found that more than 60 per cent of these implants showed signs of mechanical flaws, such as crack-like defects and full cracks.

In publicising these results, the researchers aim to encourage dental implant manufacturers and dentists to find ways to reduce the structural damage that occurs when a metal is subject to repeated applied loads.

In the study, the researchers examined 100 discarded dental implants, which had been extracted owing to peri-implantitis, made of a titanium alloy and commercially pure titanium using energy dispersive X-ray analysis and scanning electron microscopy.

They found mechanical defects in 62 per cent of the specimens. In addition, the inspection showed that the pure titanium implants had more cracks than did the titanium alloy implants. It was also found that the width and length of the different implants in this study were not correlated with the observed defects.

Shemtov-Yona is now aiming to conduct further studies to investigate the reasons for the development of cracks to determine whether the causes lie in manufacturing, use or both. The study, titled “On the mechanical integrity of retrieved dental implants”, was published in the September issue Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials.