Implant solution: Full-arch fixed monolithic zirconia

**Dr. Patel explains how at the ICOI Winter Implant Symposium**

By Javier de Pison, Dental Tribune

**D**ental Tribune interviewed Dr. Paresh B. Patel, one of the featured speakers at the ICOI Winter Implant Symposium, which took place Feb. 12-14, at the Trump National Doral in Miami.

A clinical instructor at the Restorative Dentistry Institute, Patel has published numerous articles in leading dental journals, is a lecturer and clinical instructor on dental implants and prosthetics for various companies, and maintains private practices in Lenoir and Mooresville, N.C.

Patel’s lecture at the ICOI Winter Implant Symposium focused on “Full-Arch Implant Solutions: Overdentures or Fixed Monolithic Zirconia,” a topic that attracted a large audience. Scientific director for the ICOI Winter Symposium was Dr. Scott Ganz.

Patel explained a new approach for the edentulous maxilla, where it can be a challenge to create the space needed for a fixed full-arch implant prosthesis.

“Typically, we take a titanium-wrapped acrylic bar, which would require anywhere from 15 to 20 mm of prosthetic space,” Patel said. “Now, with this new product from Glidewell Laboratories, the full-arch BruxZir bridge, we can reduce the required space to about 10 mm. Plus it doesn’t break, doesn’t chip, doesn’t stain and has pink and white esthetics built into the prosthesis, rather than being stacked on top of it.”

The BruxZir® Solid Zirconia Full-Arch Implant Prosthesis is a fixed, all-ceramic implant solution for edentulous patients who need a stable and esthetic replacement for removable prostheses.

The result of this new Glidewell product, Patel said, “is we don’t have to worry about the prosthetic teeth or pink gingival areas breaking off or changing color over time.”

This restoration, made from 100 percent solid zirconia, offers exceptional resistance to fractures, chips and stains while improving chewing and speech function. Further, its restorative procedure is nearly identical to that of a regular screw-retained hybrid denture.

“We’ve been doing full-arch bridges for about two years now, and about a year with solid zirconia restorations,” Patel said. “It has really improved our practice because now we don’t have to worry about any sort of breakage or staining of the acrylic teeth or non-esthetic screw holes when the composite and the acrylic don’t blend together well.”

The full-arch BruxZir solution includes a provisional CAD/CAM implant prosthesis, which works as a temporary denture and allows for patient evaluation of the definitive prosthesis before the final restoration is fabricated.

“Patients like the concept that the acrylic is not going to stain over the course of time,” he said.

“They also like that they have something that is not as fragile as acrylic, as it’s made of zirconia, so you know nothing is going to break, and on top of that, you get a seven-year guarantee on the prosthesis as well.”

Glidewell is so convinced of the efficacy of the BruxZir Full-Arch Implant Prosthesis that, on its website, it offers a step-by-step clinical protocol that can be done in as little as five patient visits.

In addition, Patel said in his North Carolina practices he uses the Hahn Tapered Implant System, which has a conical prosthetic connection. He described the implant as “a premium product that doesn’t come at a premium price.”

“It has a very pronounced thread and a nice surface, as well as a 1-mm machined collar at the neck of the implant, which has been shown over the course of time to be very friendly to the gum tissue, whether the platform is positioned equa-crestally or subcrestally,” Patel said. “We find that bone will grow over the top of that and will stay very happy. So, if we have tissue discrepancy supragingivally, we know that the machined collar works best against bone, and works against the soft tissue as well.”

He added that he is very happy with Glidewell’s products, as they are fairly priced, and he appreciates that the company offers implants and prosthetic solutions and is continually innovating and bringing new products to the market.

**Resources**

- Dr. Patel: www.implantcityparesh.com
- Glidewell: www.glidewelldental.com; www.hahnimplant.com

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Newly appointed AO president to lead academy in global initiatives

By AO Staff

Alan S. Pollack, DDS, a practicing periodontist in New York City, was appointed president of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) at the organization’s annual business meeting, held in February in San Diego. He succeeds former AO President Russell D. Nishimura, DDS.

“The increasing use of implant dentistry, it has become evermore important for practitioners to obtain the best possible information, independent of corporate influence and open to critique and challenge from a variety of dentists and scientists across the spectrum of dental disciplines and scientific background,” Pollack said.

“This is what AO has always been about and what guides our path. We will continue to pursue the best science available, and the best and most efficient and ethical ways of translating that for our members, to provide the best possible clinical care for our patients.”

Pollack has authored numerous publications in dental literature and is a member of many organizations, including the American Academy of Periodontology and American Dental Association, among others. He currently owns a private practice in New York City.

This year, the AO Board will implement a new strategic plan to guide the organization in the coming years. It includes supporting research, promoting education and fostering interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary care.

The 2016-2017 Board of Directors serving with Pollack are:

**Officers**
- President-Elect Michael R. Norton, BDS, FDS, RCS (Ed), an oral surgeon from London, England
- Vice President Jay P. MalMQust, DMD, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon from Portland, Ore.
- Secretary James C. Taylor, DMD, a prosthodontist from Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- Treasurer Clark M. Stanford, DDS, PhD, a prosthodontist from Chicago
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OCO Biomedical showcases 40th anniversary theme, ‘Changing Implant Dentistry Today’

By OCO Biomedical Staff

Expanding upon its 40th anniversary theme, "Changing Implant Dentistry Today," OCO Biomedical, a global leader in dental implant technology, training and instrumentation, will showcase four decades of implant innovation and achievement at the 14th annual Townie Dental Meeting.

This meeting will be held on March 30 through April 2, at the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Las Vegas. Exhibitions take place in the Cosmopolitan Belmont Ballroom on March 31 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and April 1 from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

OCO will exhibit its award-winning Complete Dental Implant System in combination with OCO's Complete Dental Implant Solutions Approach to technology and training. This innovative, comprehensive implant dentistry platform provides practitioners with the products, technology and training they need to offer the most advanced treatment options to their patients while building a sustainable and profitable practice.

States David D. Dalise, DDS, OCO founder, and CEO: “As one of the nation’s pioneer dental implant companies, OCO Biomedical has been a driving force of innovation and accomplishment in implant dentistry for four decades. One major difference offered by our company is OCO's cutting-edge, clinically proven Complete Dental Implant System.

"Our comprehensive implant solutions system is comprised of an extensive line of OCO's patented Dual Stabilization® dental implants and patented immediate/early load technology. OCO's special designs, coupled with a minimally invasive placement procedure, creates tension, not pressure, on the bone at placement. Our implants offer exceptionally high stability at placement, a critical success factor in the early healing process of osseointegration. Our unique products and system allow practitioners to provide optimal implant treatment and care in a fraction of the time needed by other systems.

"Dalise added: "OCO's Complete Dental Implant System and the Complete Dental Implant Solutions Approach is a methodology and training program developed with Dr. Charles Schlesinger, OCO's chief operating officer and director of clinical affairs. Our methods are rapidly gaining global acceptance as evidenced by our recent successful launch in Saudi Arabia, adding that country to our growing number of offshore distributors. OCO also received top ratings for our system at the 2015 Greater New York Dental Meeting. Dr. Schlesinger lectured and performed a live surgery event to approximately 1,080 attendees, and more than 95 percent said applying the knowledge and skills gained, with minimal preparation, the system could be implemented immediately into their respective practices. In my opinion, it’s clear that the time has come to transition from traditional implant products and protocols to those that take advantage of the biomechanically active ones such as ours and the positive results that our system and approach provide."

"Schlesinger "To address the present and future realities for implant dentistry success, we have created and implemented highly progressive, accelerated learning training programs. In response to increased market demand, we have expanded our educational outreach, both nationally and internationally. Our new and innovative state-of-the-art courses, featuring the Complete Dental Implant Solutions Approach, are being met with great success, with attendance at capacity in many locations. The Townie Dental Meeting provides a great opportunity to present our unparalleled system and explain the full spectrum of the AGD-Pace accredited, value-priced educational program that OCO offers."

OCO technical representatives will be onsite at booth No. 422 to provide product information and previews, along with catalogs, updated course/workshop information and registration material. Special attendee product discounts will be available.
Restoring quality of life

Patients rely on you in order to eat, speak, and smile with confidence. It can be said, you are actually restoring quality of life.

To succeed, you need technology that is well founded and documented in science. That is why we only deliver premium solutions for all phases of implant therapy, which have been extensively tested and clinically proven to provide lifelong function and esthetics.

Moreover, with an open-minded approach, we partner with our customers and offer services that go beyond products, such as educational opportunities and practice development programs.

Reliable solutions and partnership for restoring quality of life—because it matters.

Comprehensive solutions for all phases of implant dentistry

www.dentsplyimplants.com