The edentulous maxilla often presents with a range of challenges and solutions that can be difficult for individual clinicians to navigate. To help them make choices that best utilize current research — and improve the quality and efficiency of patient care — the Academy of Osseointegration (AO) has expanded its current Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) to include management of patients with no teeth in the upper jaw.

"Advanced technology has provided dentistry with enhanced diagnostic tools, improved materials and better prosthetic options for managing the edentulous maxilla, making a growing number of patients eligible for implant therapy," said AO Board Member Clark Stanford, DDS, PhD, UIC distinguished professor and dean, College of Dentistry, University of Illinois, Chicago. "Responsibilities for clinicians managing the edentulous maxilla have also multiplied, which is why AO sought to define the issues, develop a process and create a model that can quickly be applied to practice."

To arrive at these guidelines, in August 2014, AO hosted a Consensus Summit that brought together 120 global scientists and clinicians — including representatives from the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) and the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP) — to conduct a systematic review of the current literature, clinical information and accepted treatment approaches for management of the edentulous maxilla.

Summit co-chairs were Stanford and Ole T. Jensen, DDS, MS. Committee members included Gustavo Avila-Ortiz, DDS, MS, PhD; Lyndon F. Cooper, DDS, PhD; Jeffrey Ganeles, DMD; Sree Koka, DMD, MS, PhD; and Jay P. Malmquist, DMD.

Results of this summit, including supporting systematic reviews and detailed CPGs, are now available in a special edition of the International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants (JOMI) — the official journal of the AO — Volume 31, Supplement 2016. AO members can now access this supplement by signing into the member section of the Academy’s website: osseo.org.

"The next step is to gain approval by the National Guidelines Clearing House, which provides a formal policy-based stamp of approval to help drive adoption across the profession," Stanford said. "The guidelines cover five domain areas defined as: (1) role of grafting for ridge development for implant placement; (2) role of implant design and systems in management of the edentulous maxilla; (3) role of imaging to guide implant placement; (4) role of biology to assist in ridge development; and (5) role of pros thesis management.

These domains address key questions such as: what are the indications for grafting? What are the most effective systems for managing the edentulous maxilla? What are the best treatment options available to those who are missing teeth, and the AAID is home to dental implant experts, who can provide surgical, restorative or both phases of treatment. A dentist’s affiliation with the AAID is a sign that he or she is devoted to improving patient lifestyles by replacing missing teeth, the AAID asserts.

In addition to providing valuable information about dental implants (available on aaid-implant.org), members of the AAID will be hosting events and activities in their local communities during August for those interested in learning more about options to improve their lifestyles by replacing missing teeth. Founded in 1951, the AAID asserts it was the first organization in the United States dedicated to developing and improving dental implants. Today, after 65 years, the AAID continues to be regarded as a leading organization of dentists devoted to providing dental implant treatment solutions.
AO announces call for abstracts for its 2017 annual meeting

By AO Staff

Abstracts are now being accepted for the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Academy of Osseointegration (AO), a multidisciplinary meeting co-sponsored by AAOMS, AAP and ACP, and occurring March 15-18 in Orlando, Fla. Researchers are invited to submit an abstract for clinical innovations, oral research (scientific and clinical) and electronic poster (scientific, clinical and case studies) presentations before 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sept. 2. To submit an abstract, visit https://osseo2017.abstractcentral.com/ and the on-screen prompts will take you through the submission process. There will be a $50 fee for all abstract submissions.

AO’s Research Submissions Committee and the Clinical Innovations Committee will blindly review submitted abstracts for quality and appropriateness of content and presentation. Eight oral-clinical, six oral-scientific and 20 clinical-innovation abstracts will be selected for the annual meeting.

During the AO Annual Business Meeting on March 18, awards and plaques will be presented for the best oral presentations and ePosters. The best oral-scientific research and best oral-clinical research presentations will be awarded $1,000, and the best clinical-innovations presenter will receive $500. The first-place ePoster will receive $500, second place $250, and the best case study will receive $500. If you have questions about the oral presentations or ePosters, please contact Kim Scroggs, AO manager of education, at kims@osseo.org or at (847) 725-2288.

About the Academy of Osseointegration

With 6,000 members in 70 countries around the world, the AO is recognized as a premier international association for professionals interested in implant dentistry. AO serves as a nexus where specialists and generalists can come together to evaluate emerging research, technology and techniques, share the best information, and coordinate optimal patient care using timely, evidence-based science and methods. Follow AO on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn and use #AOOrlando for meeting news.

AO clinicians should consider for each specific patient, including: What is the maxillary/mandibular ridge relationship? What is the quality and quantity of available hard and soft tissue? Can the patient maintain adequate oral hygiene? Do habits or disease put this patient in an at-risk category?

“Management of the edentulous maxilla cannot be one size fits all,” said AO Board Member Tara L. Aghaloo, DDS, MD, PhD, professor and assistant dean for clinical research, division of diagnostic and surgical services, University of California, Los Angeles School of Dentistry. “That’s why clinical practice guidelines are so important for dentistry, especially implant dentistry. Some treatment options require advanced training and skill, and should not be performed by less experienced clinicians, at least not without the proper training.

“The future is extremely bright for the management of the edentulous maxilla, whether it is severely atrophic or not,” Aghaloo added. “It is apparent that technology will continue to improve, resulting in implants that can be loaded sooner and used in more compromised sites.”

For more information, visit the Academy of Osseointegration on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.
OUR WORLD IS NOT FLAT

NEITHER IS THE ANATOMY OF YOUR IMPLANT PATIENTS

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It’s time to challenge conventional thinking
KaVo Kerr Group imaging brands announce second 3D University

By KaVo Kerr Group

Registration is open for the second 3D University (3DU), hosted by KaVo Kerr Group imaging brands Gendex™, NOMAD™, SOREDEX™ and Instrumentarium™. 3DU is a one-of-a-kind two-day event that offers dental professionals an educational environment dedicated to cone-beam 3-D (CBCT) solutions that will enhance their practice and put them in full control of treatment outcomes, according to the group. 3DU will be Oct. 7-8, in Boston.

Welcoming doctors, staff and dental students, 3DU will give attendees the opportunity to earn up to 12 C.E. credits courtesy of world-class speakers and industry experts, according to the KaVo Kerr Group, including:

- Christine Taxin on “Medical Billing and Insurance Reimbursement”
- Lou Graham, DDS, on his “Journey to 3-D”
- Kaveh Ghaboussi, DMD, on using “3-D for Implant Planning” and more
- Lisa Koenig, BCHD, DDS, MS, offering an “Anatomy and Pathology Review”
- Lou Shuman, DMD, CAGS, on “Social Media and Online Marketing 2016: Search Engine Optimization, Website and Mobile”

The complete agenda will also dive into the role of 3-D in endodontics, reading 3-D scans, real-life case presentations and software training and best practices for incorporating 3-D into your practice in order to maximize your investment, the KaVo Kerr Group asserts.

Dr. Joe Blaes, a trusted thought leader in the dental industry during the past 30 years, will serve as a moderator for the event, offering advice on how to ask the right questions about technology integration and the role the wider dental team plays in its success.

“We brought our entire staff because we believe something gets lost in translation when you don’t have your team participate in continuing education, and especially when you’re talking about technology,” said Dr. Antonio Cigno of Greenfield, Wis.-based Cigno Family Dental, who attended 3DU in 2015. “It isn’t just about technology, but how to humanize it and use it to help people, not just as a mechanical tool but as something that can help people understand the value of care and why your practice is different, treating them at a greater level than you could with standard technology.”

For a limited time, dental professionals can enter to win free tuition and a two-night stay in Boston for the event. Go to dental3DU.com/win for details and additional information about the event.

About KaVo Kerr Group

KaVo Kerr Group is a global portfolio of leading dental brands that share common values of Trust, Experience, Choices, Quality and Smart Innovation. Brands include KaVo™, Kerr™, i-CAT™, Gendex, NOMAD, DEXIS™, Instrumentarium Dental, SOREDEX, Orascoptic™, Pelton & Crane™, Marus™, Pentron™, Ormco™ and Implant Direct™. With more than 500 years of combined experience and proven solutions, KaVo Kerr Group says it uniquely serves 99 per cent of dental practices. Visit www.kavo kerrgroup.com for more information.
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—Clinical case and photography courtesy of Paresh B. Patel, DDS.

Visit glidewelldental.com/solutions/ to view the entire case study.

Additional BruxZir Solid Zirconia Implant Restorative Options

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*Price does not include multi-unit abutments, shipping or applicable taxes and may vary when original equipment manufacturer (OEM) components are requested or required for the chosen implant system. Half of payment is due after first appointment; half is due at final delivery. **Price does not include shipping or applicable taxes.

1 Warranty is provided to the prescribing dentist and is nontransferable. For complete warranty details go to glidewelldental.com. 1. Clinician Report, TRAC Research, July 2014

For more information
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Nobel Biocare enhances edentulous solutions offering with Locator R-Tx Attachment System

Improved esthetics, simplicity and strength compared with the original Locator system

By Nobel Biocare Staff

Nobel Biocare is further advancing its comprehensive product range for edentulous treatment with the Locator R-Tx™ Removable Denture Attachment System. Locator R-Tx was officially launched for Nobel Biocare implants at the company’s global symposium in New York in late June.

Locator R-Tx is an evolution of the successful Locator® Attachment System. This next-generation attachment offers clinicians a number of advantages vs. its predecessor, the company asserts. These include the new Duratec™ titanium carbon nitride coating. Duratec is harder and more wear-resistant than the nitride coating of the legacy Locator and is designed to reduce roughness.

The Locator R-Tx system eliminates the need for pre-angled abutments, according to Nobel. Its redesigned attachment housing is able to pivot up to 30 degrees over the seated Locator R-Tx nylon retention inserts, allowing up to 60 degrees convergence or divergence between implants. The attachment housing also incorporates flats and grooves to prevent dislodgement of the denture and is anodized to give it a pink color, which can help improve esthetics, according to the company.

Seating is aided by the narrow coronal geometry of the attachment, while dual retentive surfaces support strong engagement. For convenience, all the required components are delivered together, with abutment and processing components held separately in one double-ended vial. With an industry-standard .050-inch/1.25 mm hex-drive mechanism, no special drivers are required.

The Locator R-Tx attachment system is available for Nobel Biocare implants with internal conical, tri-channel and external hex connection.

“By combining improved performance, esthetics and ease of use for both clinician and patient, the Locator R-Tx Attachment System is an ideal addition to the Nobel Biocare product range,” said Nobel Biocare and Dental Imaging President Hans Geiselhöringer.

“As leaders in the treatment of edentulous and soon-to-be edentulous patients, and the company behind both the All-on-4® treatment concept and zygomatic implant treatment, we know that developments in this area have a huge impact on quality of life for patients. We are therefore delighted to offer our customers yet another innovation that is designed to further improve treatment quality.”

Locator R-Tx is now available to purchase from Nobel Biocare in CE-accepting markets, the United States and Canada. In the relevant markets, Locator R-Tx will be available to purchase from store.nobelbiocare.com. Clinicians are advised to contact their local Nobel Biocare representative to confirm availability.

About Nobel Biocare

Nobel Biocare is a world leader in the field of innovative implant-based dental restorations. The company’s portfolio offers solutions from single tooth to fully edentulous indications with dental implant systems (including key brands NobelActive®, Bränemark System® and NobelReplace®), a comprehensive range of high-precision individualized prosthetics and CAD/CAM systems (NobelProcera®), diagnostics, treatment planning and guided-surgery solutions (NobelClinician® and NobelGuide®) and biomaterials (creos®). Nobel Biocare supports its customers through all phases of professional development, offering training and education along with practice support and patient information materials. The company is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland.
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