UK spin-out launches crowdfunding campaign for no-drill tooth repair tech

By DTI

PERTH, UK: Teeth restored without drilling is the dream of almost every dental patient. A new approach developed in Britain that utilises an electrical current to remineralise the tooth promises exactly that. Reminova, the developer of the technology, has now announced the start of an equity crowdfunding campaign for UK and the US in an effort to raise £0.5 million to bring it to market.

It will be the first fundraising campaign of its kind to target shareholders in both countries simultaneously. If reached, the sum will be used to expand the company’s development and operational team and to seek strategic partnerships with dental companies interested in selling the technology. Reminova executives said initial clinical studies are already planned.

Reminova expects a potential market for the device of 700,000 dentists worldwide. In a press note released at the start of the campaign, the company said that individuals who are interested in becoming shareholders will have 60 days to contribute to the project. The minimum investment is £1,000 for those from the UK or Europe and US$5,000 for Americans.

In return, they will help to get rid of drilling in dentistry and transform global dental health.

“With their help and investment, our tooth rebuilding treatment could be available to patients within three years,” predicted Reminova CEO Dr Jeff Wright.

According to Reminova, its technology prepares damaged tooth enamel in such a way that the ions of minerals required to remineralise the tooth, such as calcium and phosphate, can be pushed to the deepest parts of lesions faster. This remineralisation process is stimulated by short electronic pulses emitted by a specially developed instrument, which is estimated to cost less than £10,000 once it enters the market.

“When our treatment you can top-up your natural teeth enamel whenever you need, just as you’d service your car when it needs a bit of loving care,” Wright said.

Reminova claims to currently hold or to have applied for 17 patents for the technology, which was first presented to the public in 2014. A King’s College London (KCL) spin-out, the company is based in Perth in Scotland and managed by tooth decay experts, including KCL Professor Nigel Pitts and dentist Dr Chris Longbottom.
Ivoclar updates dentists about latest materials and treatment protocols

By DTI

Leicester, UK: For years, the International Centre for Dental Education from Ivoclar Vivadent has been offering dental education and training for dentists and dental technicians in the UK. At its anniversary celebration in June, over 200 came to Leicester to celebrate the Centre’s achievements and update themselves on the latest materials and treatment protocols, such as the company’s IPS e.max system.

Focusing on innovation in dental design, renowned dental technician and Ivoclar Vivadent Global Opinion Leader Oliver Brix from Germany presented a series of case reports involving the materials and ranging from single tooth restorations to full mouth rehabilitations. State-of-the-art protocols and critical steps to ensure long-term success were also presented by Dr Markus Lenhard from Switzerland.

Leading UK experts such as Chris McConnell, Rob Lynock, Alan Casson and Carl Fenwick, further provided live demonstrations to illustrate the revolutions that are taking place in composite dentistry with advanced products, such as the light-curing lab composite SR Nexco Paste, IPS e.max frameworks with the fully automated injection-moulding device Ivobase and the Tetric EvoCeram Bulk Fill system.

In addition to legal, ethical and practical issues surrounding the selection of patients for implants and the placement and management of the peri-implant site presented by dental hygienist Donna Shembrri from Huddersfield. Oldham dental technician and Ivoclar Vivadent Opinion Leader John Wibberley addressed the aesthetic and functional needs of the patient when creating restorations, while he explored the principals and materials used in the customising of denture teeth, gingival contouring and gingival staining.

Following this, dental technician Phillip Reddington from Leeds further educated delegates on ‘high-performance polymers’ which are considered as a replacement for materials such as metal and zirconia in framework fabrication and are increasingly used to manufacture hybrid composite/ceramic restorations.

Since 2011, the ICDE has been offering education for dentists in its Leicester premises. Based close to the M1, the facility provides state-of-the-art dental surgery for live demonstrations and a fully equipped lecture theatre that can hold up to 40 participants. A full list of courses and seminars is available at the centre’s website.