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ACTUAL ARTICLE WITH IDENTIFYING INFORMATION CHANGED

Maxillofacial Surgical Associates: Creating Functional, Beautiful, Stable Smiles for a Lifetime

The surgeons at Maxillofacial Surgical Associates are on the leading edge of implant-dentistry, utilizing the latest techniques and technologies to create healthy, functional, and beautiful smiles for patients whose natural teeth are missing or cannot be preserved.

"Dentures, as we know them, are obsolete," states Ricardo Estrada, DDS, MD, a board-certified oral and maxillofacial surgeon with Maxillofacial Surgical Associates in Sanford and Lake Mary, Florida. It's a bold statement but one Dr. Estrada backs with facts.

He credits the development of leading-edge techniques and technologies with making traditional dentures an outdated treatment. In particular, he says, the advent of the *Teeth-In-One-Hour* and *Teeth-In-One-Day* procedures have enabled patients to get full upper and/or lower teeth that are secured with dental implants. Implant-secured teeth provide the stability that traditional dentures sitting atop gum tissue simply cannot match. That is just one of many advantages.

"Another huge advantage is that we can do these procedures in one day, so the patient avoids multiple surgeries, multiple hours in the chair, and multiple post-operative courses of pain, swelling, and downtime. It also minimizes the cost.

"We've come to the conclusion that there's really no reason why anyone should walk around with dentures or without teeth anymore," says Dr. Estrada, "because implant-supported teeth look, feel, and function as close to natural teeth as anything anyone has ever developed."

Dr. Estrada adds that patients no longer have to be "disabled" with a traditional denture, or loose or irreparable teeth. They no longer have to be restricted to a diet of soft, mushy foods nor do they have to worry about their denture falling out when they're at the dinner table.

"What we've found out over long studies is that people are remarkably healthier with fixed teeth and their lifestyles are much better," adds Jonathan V. Malcomb, DMD, also a board-certified oral and maxillofacial surgeon at Maxillofacial Surgical Associates. "Anybody who's about to lose their teeth is faced with wearing a denture, walking around without anything in their mouth, or getting implant-supported teeth, which allows them an immediate transition. They are far better served with this."

PRETREATMENT PLANNING

CT scanning is an integral part of treatment planning for both Teeth-In-One-Hour and Teeth-In-One-Day. The CT scan renders a three-dimensional image of the patient's jawbone and their jaw structure.

Dr. Estrada says the CT scan gives doctors very useful information, such as where they need to place the implants, which is decided by how much bone is present. The CT scan also allows the doctors to determine the quality of the bone, which is done with a bone density analysis of the scan.

"We also look for the proximity of other anatomic structures that can't be violated during implant placement, such as the sinuses, the nose in the upper jaw, and the nerves in the lower jaw—mainly the mandibular nerve," says Dr. Estrada. "What the CT scan allows us to see is exactly where those structures are in three dimensions. That's something routine dental x-rays or panoramic x-rays can't show."

While bone grafting is still necessary for certain patients, Dr. Malcomb says the inclusion of CT scanning in treatment planning has eliminated the need for bone grafting in the vast majority of cases.

"We can now avoid most bone grafting with the CT scan because we can now visualize areas of bone that can be utilized that we couldn't see or measure before. We've probably reduced our grafting by seventy-five percent."

While both the Teeth-In-One-Hour and Teeth-In-One-Day procedures utilize CT scans in the treatment planning, Dr. Estrada explains that Teeth-In-One-Hour procedures take that a little bit further: "We use computer software to do the surgery, virtually, on a computer monitor, placing the virtual implants into a three-dimensional model of the patient's jaw. This allows us to have an exact surgical guide premade by the implant manufacturer, which we utilize for implant placement.

"Because we know all that in advance, we can premake the temporary teeth that are going to be inserted on the implants. This technology is what allows us to accomplish this amazing procedure in one hour."

"Teeth-In-One-Day is a little different," adds Dr. Malcomb, "because we're removing existing teeth that are compromised or broken down or have a very poor prognosis at the same time that we're placing the implants and restoring the implants.

We're unable to preplan the exact locations of the implants because we're removing existing teeth, so we utilize the CT scans to guide us and give us an idea where the bone is. So three-dimensional imaging is used for both procedures but is taken a step further for the Teeth-In-One-Hour procedure."

For both Teeth-In-One-Hour and Teeth-In-One-Day, the patient leaves the office with a complete temporary restoration that looks and feels natural, and the ability to eat a soft diet immediately.

Over the following three to five months, the implants osseointegrate with the jawbone, and the patient returns to have their temporary restoration replaced with a milled, titanium-based, ideally finished bridge.

FOR REFERRING DENTISTS

The Teeth-In-One-Hour and Teeth-In-One-Day procedures utilize state-of-the-art, high-tech hardware manufactured by Nobel Biocare™ and Biomet 3i™, both of which are recognized industry leaders. As new products become available, the surgeons at Maxillofacial Surgical Associates consider them all and offer the best ones to their patients.

"Something that's new from Biomet 3i is QuickBridge®," says Dr. Estrada. "It's another advance in implant technology which allows us to do these procedures even quicker and more efficiently so patients get their results faster.

"Biomet 3i has coined the term *DIEM*® for their version of Teeth-In-One-Day, utilizing similar techniques and procedures. Guided surgery is accomplished with 3i using their Navigator system for precise, restorative-driven implant placement."

Maxillofacial Surgical Associates is a full-scope oral surgery practice with a significant emphasis on dental implants, and the surgeons have positioned themselves on the cutting-edge of the current technology.

"We have done this," says Dr. Malcomb, "by having a CT scanner in our office, by attending continuing education courses throughout the country, and by truly being at the forefront of providing the Teeth-In-One-Hour and Teeth-In-One-Day procedures, which are still relatively unknown among both dental professionals and the general public."

Dr. Estrada adds, "We're in a small area; however, we're practicing oral surgery and dentistry at the highest level now possible."

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Synergy Training Program®

In 2010, Maxillofacial Surgical Associates will host a Synergy Training Program®, which is sponsored by Biomet 3i. It's designed specifically for restorative dentists who either have limited implant experience or no implant experience at all.

"Restorative dentists and surgeons who have vast implant experience guide these less experienced dentists, step by step, through the implant process," says Dr. Estrada. "This program gets everyone comfortable with finding an implant patient, treatment planning the case, treating the patient, and then doing the follow-up.

"It's a program that's spread out over nine months because it goes through every phase in real time. It also allows the participants to bring in their own cases, so it's really very different than a lot of continuing education courses because it takes your specific

case through the whole process, start to finish." Participants share in the diagnosis and treatment planning of all cases in the program, thereby obtaining more experience.

For more information about the Synergy Training Program, or to sign up for the 2010 course, contact Lauren Seibert, Practice Relations Coordinator, at (555) 445-8772 or Lauren@Website.org.

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Jonathan V. Malcomb, DMD, received his dental degree from the University of Pittsburgh. His training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery was completed at the Montifiore Hospital and the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Malcomb is board certified by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. He has served as president of the Seminole County American Cancer Society, the Tri-County Dental Society, the Florida Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, and the Southeastern Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons. He has held teaching appointments from the University of Pittsburgh and University of Florida. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Seminole Memorial Medical Center and an officer of the medical staff.

Ricardo Estrada, DDS, MD, obtained his dental degree from Northwestern University and his medical degree from the University of Miami. He received his Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital, where he served as Chief Resident in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and completed a fellowship year in Anesthesiology. He is board certified by the American

Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and is a fellow of the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology.

Maxillofacial Surgical Associates has offices located at 755 SE Magnolia Blvd., Suite H, Sanford, FL 34994, phone (555) 422-2189; and 7823 SE Simon Ln., Suite B-617, Lake Mary, FL 34952, phone (555) 590-5566. For more information, visit www.Website.org.

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