Same-Day Implants and Prosthesis

Case Report

This article describes a case that involved placement of 6 implants and a prosthesis in a completely edentulous patient. The procedure was performed utilizing NobelGuide software (Nobel Biocare), and the technique is trademarked as Teeth-in-an-Hour (Nobel Biocare). Utilizing a computed tomography (CT) scan and virtual software we were able to plan the placement of implants, fabricate a surgical template that would allow transfer of the plan to the oral cavity, and place a provisional prosthesis all in the same day. (Note that depending on the case, the clinician also has the option of placing a final prosthesis.)

CASE REPORT

The patient was a 60-year-old female who was edentulous in the maxillary arch (Figure 1). After an initial examination and consultation the patient was referred for a CT scan of her maxilla. At this time, the patient wore a radiographic template provided by the restorative dentist.

Upon receipt of the scan we planned the position of the implants with our restorative colleague, as well as the design of the prosthesis. This was done utilizing the virtual software (Figures 2a and 2b). The information was e-mailed to the software company’s headquarters in Sweden, where a surgical template was fabricated (Figure 3). The prosthesis was then fabricated by Kuwata Pan Dent, an authorized Nobel Biocare Laboratory.

The surgical template was inserted with pins for stability (Figure 4). Prefabricated drill guides were utilized for flapless implantation of 6 fixtures (Figure 5). The template was then removed, and the prosthesis was placed with special abutments that have the ability to adjust by expanding laterally (Figure 6).

The patient presented edentulous and left with a fixed prosthesis (Figure 7). Total treat-
Figure 3. The information was e-mailed to Belgium, where a surgical template and a prosthesis were fabricated.

Figure 4. The surgical template was inserted with pins for stability.

Figure 5. Prefabricated drill guides were utilized for flapless implantation of 6 fixtures.

Figure 6. The template was removed, and the prosthesis was placed with special abutments that have the ability to adjust.

Figure 7. The patient presented edentulous and left with a fixed prosthesis. Total treatment time was approximately 2 to 3 hours.

**ADVANTAGES OF THIS PROCEDURE**
- Reduced treatment time compared to the traditional protocol.
- Minimally invasive surgery.
- Fewer postoperative complications.
- Prosthesis (temporary or final) seated on the same day with accuracy.

**POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS**
If 6 to 8 implants are placed in a completely edentulous maxilla and loaded at the time of surgery with cross-arch stabilization, the literature has shown that osseointegration occurs. Cross-arch stabilization using a well-fitted prosthesis allows loading of implants immediately. Certain criteria, such as good bone quality, a well-fitted prosthesis, and a balanced occlusion, must be met.

Postoperative instructions include a soft diet for 4 to 6 weeks and to avoid chewing anything hard or tearing into food. At 3 to 4 months implant integration is tested and a final prosthesis can be made if needed.

**CONCLUSION**
This procedure is appropriate for anyone who is missing one tooth or all teeth. The technique can be used for the partially edentulous as well as fully edentulous maxilla or mandible.

Recently, there has been an increased demand from the public for this procedure. Currently, numerous cases are being prepared and treatment planned in our offices. Our experience has been excellent.

**Acknowledgment**
A special thanks to our periodontal colleague, Dr. Philip Kang of Montclair, NJ, and Kuwata Pan Dent Laboratory in Cedar Knolls, NJ, for their expertise and guidance in the treatment of our patient.

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