



Time to change

Mervyn Druian shares a personal view on an inspirational implant course

After seeing an advert for Dr Eddie Scher's Osseointegrated Implant Week course, and reading the line 'now in its 21st year', it made me realise that implants were here to stay – so I thought I had better attend.

All encompassing

The programme started on a Sunday, was limited to 10 clinicians, and ran for six days. The aim was to follow patients from examination, to treatment planning, through the actual operation (which we watched in an in-house theatre), to the final restoration. Every aspect of the patient treatment was covered, including management within the practice environment. Each day was linked to the relevant point of the particular

patient's treatment plan, and also included a detailed literature review.

Topics covered included anatomy, physiology, biomaterials, sterility, surgical techniques, implant impression techniques, jaw registration, articulation and periodontal consideration (including guided tissue regeneration) and connecting teeth to implants.

Medico-legal aspects were covered by Dr Alan Cohen, from Dental Protection, and radiography was fully covered by Sean Goldner. We also watched a CT scan being taken of the patients we were following. Dr Joe Omar gave a graphic lecture on medical emergencies, which few of us will forget.

There were hands-on sessions in both the surgical and prosthetic phases, and arrangements could be made for us to treat our own patients in the practice operating theatre. This form of mentoring – which is now essential for the GDC requirements in implant dentistry – has been undertaken by Eddie since he started the courses 21 years ago. He advises mentoring for your first four to six implant cases – this enables the dentist to acquire skills necessary to diagnose and treatment plan, and assist in placement and restoration of cases, under guidance and supervision. He offers this service as part of the course, or recommends using a mentor from a mentor's register, like those of the Association of Dental Implantology (ADI) and the Royal College of Surgeons.

He also recommended we should be members of the ADI, and use their sophisticated online audit system in order to keep a full record of our implant work.

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Motivated

This was an action-packed implant course over six consecutive days and covering virtually the whole field from diagnosis and treatment planning to restorative, prosthodontic and risk management.

However, that was just the instructive side. What the programme notes did not describe was Eddie's warmth, empathy and commitment to see that each delegate benefitted fully from the course. His team of assistants helped make this a truly memorable experience.

A bonus of the programme was that the delegates hailed from all over the globe – resulting in a great community spirit and sharing of experiences.

The programme ended on the Friday afternoon with a mini graduation ceremony. On the Thursday evening Eddie, his wife and his team treated all the delegates to a fabulous dinner at a Japanese restaurant.

That we felt motivated, confident and enthusiastic to apply the knowledge we had gained over this very intensive week was credit to Eddie's dedication and inspirational work. If you want to have a serious grounding in the very difficult and challenging field of clinical implantology, then this is the course for you.

The next Osseointegrated Implant Week course begins on 10 October 2010, for further information please visit www.dental-implants.co.uk.

OSSEOINTEGRATED IMPLANTOLOGY COURSE

Osseointegrated Implantology Courses

Sunday 10th October – Friday 15th October 2010 Inclusive

This intensive format is ideal for delegates who wish to participate in a course over 6 consecutive days – **Fee £2200**

Topics covered include:

- examination and treatment planning • dealing with the patient within the practice • anatomy, physiology • biomaterials • sterility • surgical templates • surgical techniques (to include bone augmentation and advanced surgical techniques) • implant impression techniques
- jaw registration • articulation • periodontal consideration (to include maintenance protocol and guided tissue regeneration) • Connecting teeth to implants • Detailed literature review.

There will be guest speakers on the following subjects;

Dr Joe Omar on 'Medical Emergencies'

Dr Alan Cohen on 'Medico – Legal Aspects'

Mr Sean Goldner on 'CT Scanning'

Mr Keith Rowe on 'Laboratory Techniques'

There will be hands-on session on the surgical, prosthetic and laboratory phases, and the delegates will attend a CT scan appointment with one of the patients on the course.

This course is suitable for the application of all different osseointegrated implant systems.

Delegates who complete the course are eligible for the **ICOI Fellowship**, without further examination. This course carries 36 hours of CPD accreditation.

Course accredited for MFGDP, MGDS, and FFGDP. Colleagues are welcome to arrange to come and view our practice. For more details please contact our Practice Managers.

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