Wednesday, September 27th

“Fixed Removable Hybrids: Mistakes, Problems, and Hurdles”

Fixed-removable hybrid prosthetic therapy has become a viable option for the edentulous or terminal dentition patient. Many implant companies have embraced this exciting treatment option. However, hybrid prostheses can pose challenges even for the dentist that is skilled in removable prosthodontics and dental implants. This lecture will focus on walking the dentist through the fixed-removable hybrid prosthesis procedure start to finish. Emphasis will be placed on avoiding common prosthodontic treatment errors, and how to treat the fixed-removable hybrid patient as efficiently as possible.

“Zirconia: Crowns, Abutments and Full Arch Prosthetics Digital Workflow”

Zirconia restorations have taken dentistry by storm. Many companies such as Kuraray (Katana), Sagemax (NeXxZr), 3M (Lava) and others manufacture zirconia. Dental laboratories then turn this zirconia into everything from crowns, bridges, implant abutments to full arch prosthetics. However, questions where or when to utilize these materials exist. Concerns exist regarding luting versus bonding, preparation design, adjustment of materials and many more. Restorative dentists and specialists alike should find this lecture informative as they look to incorporate zirconia into their practices.

“Implant problems or Disasters, What to Do?”

Initially surgical and restorative procedures were limited to Treatment for the Dental Cripple. What has transpired since the early 70’s? There are now over 700 types of implants with seemingly new systems hitting the market monthly. Now endodontists, prosthodontists, periodontists, oral surgeons and seemingly many well intentioned general dentists have become involved with placing and restoring implants. With all these changes, there has been an exponential number of implant patients with problems. In many instances solutions to these problems are not easily corrected. This presentation will discuss problems occurring with changes in implant dentistry.
Thursday, September 28th

“Global Diagnosis”

With the increased emphasis on interdisciplinary treatment in recent years, the deficiencies associated with traditional methods of diagnosis and treatment planning have become more evident and problematic. It is the purpose of this presentation to provide a systematic approach to diagnosis and treatment planning the complex interdisciplinary dental patient with a common language that may be used by the orthodontist, and oral and maxillofacial surgeon, as well as the restorative dentist. The four Global Diagnoses, which dictate all interdisciplinary treatment planning, will be discussed.

“The Seven Steps of Successful Restorative Cases”

Clinical success can be defined by achieving a result that is aesthetic, functional and predictable. Today's demand for such a high level of aesthetics and predictability require a collaborative effort between the dentist and technician. This seminar investigates the factors that allow a relationship between the dentist and technician to result in extraordinary and predictable results. This presentation introduces the "Outside/Inside" evaluation. This refers to seven specific steps that must be considered when developing any treatment plan. Following these steps result in restorations that are aesthetic and functional while improving predictability.

“Modern Removable Partial Dentures with a Look to the Future”

Appropriate treatment planning for today's growing older adult population must include a sound appreciation of optimal removable partial denture treatment. From prosthetic options that favorably distribute functional loads along supporting tissues to treatment approaches that render acceptable esthetic results, review and reconsideration of RPD design requirements is an ongoing necessity in modern practice. This presentation will review diagnostic information gathering, RPD design based on classical concepts, considerations for optimal mouth preparation, and esthetic RPD alternative. Finally, the impact of modern manufacturing on RPD fabrication will be considered with an eye to the future.
“Evidence-Based Evaluation of Contemporary Ceramic Systems”

Numerous ceramic systems have been brought to market over the past 30 years. Most of these systems were clinical failures. McLain and Sharer proposed that clinicians should wait for 5 year clinical trials with 95% survival before adopting a new ceramic system. Unfortunately it takes almost 10 years from product inception to publishing the results of a 5-year trial. Laboratory studies tell us little about the clinical behavior of ceramics. This presentation will describe current ceramic systems and present data from a new approach that provides clinical data on these systems in a timely manner.

Table Clinic Session

Friday, September 29th

“The Future of Dental Practice: Industry Perspective”

An Industry Perspective Dental practices exist within an industry of various stakeholders. All are interconnected. Changes in any one part of the industry impact every other part of the industry. Today the changes that are occurring throughout the industry are impacting the way dental practices are owned and operated. Those changes, and how they will impact dental practices and dentists is the focus of this presentation.

“Diagnostic Dilemmas of Facial Pain Patients. A Brief Overview of Triaging Facial Pain”

By far, the most common reason patients seek care in a medical or dental setting is for pain. The diversity of the numerous structures of the head and face as well as their complex innervations are potentially responsible for the sometimes-puzzling symptomatology these patients present with. In order to effectively treat the facial pain patient, a systematic approach to examination must be a part of the diagnostic process. This course will provide the clinician with a cursory background of pain definitions, classifications, and presentations commonly seen in the head, face, and oral cavity regions.
“Prosthodontically-Driven Implant Treatment”

Predictably excellent function and esthetics of implant prostheses are obtained when the final prosthesis goals are clearly defined prior to implant surgical treatment. To minimize the frequency and severity of many complications, we must avoid having implants surgically placed and later determining the prosthesis design based on post-surgical implant position. This presentation is aimed at examining the interrelationship of implant-supported prosthesis design requirements to implant surgical placement requirements for achieving excellence in long-term function and esthetics.

“Multiple Anterior Implants: Accurately Predicting, Not Guessing, at Final Hard & Soft Tissue Aesthetics”

Multiple dental implants in the aesthetic zone have been a perplexing problem since the advent of root formed dental implants. Peri-implant soft-and hard tissue complications present clinical challenges that can be devastating. This presentation will review different surgical and non-surgical augmentation techniques and evaluate their predictability and long-term results. It will focus on proper diagnosis and surgical techniques to prevent aesthetic dilemmas.

Free Afternoon & Evening

Saturday, September 30th

“From Analog to Digital: Application of Principles in Our Transition”

The process of adopting digital dentistry must be based on sound principles. We find however, that within the CAD/CAM realm there is a tendency to let the digital dictate the design. As the Air Force Prosthodontics Residency Program has incorporated CAD/CAM, we have attempted to let foundational principles guide the adoption of new techniques. This presentation provides an overview of steps taken, lessons learned, and principles applied along the road from analog to digital.
"Digital Integration into Accurate Diagnosis, Treatment Planning and Application of Gnathologic Principles to Treatment"

Computer-based technologies continue to improve our ability to analyze the patient situation in 3-D. 3-D images combined with digital planning software offer the gnathologically astute clinician unprecedented opportunities to carry out complex restorative care. Dr. Harris will present his perspective as a Gnathology-trained Prosthodontist who has embraced the use of digital workflows in the management of complex restorative cases.

“Incorporating Digital Dentistry into the Modern Dental Practice”

As we move rapidly into the digital age with new technologies being introduced at an alarming rate, we must be critical of the technologies and ask if they are an improvement on traditional methods for accuracy, cost and patient care. This talk will examine the real world adaptation of new technologies into a private prosthodontic practice and the ways our “new toys” have streamlined and improved patient care.

“Surgical Extrusion - Forgotten?”

Teeth with subcrestal fractures, subgingival caries, resorptions or perforations in the cervical third of the roots are often condemned due to violation of biologic width and a limited ferrule. Crown lengthening procedure has traditionally been the treatment of choice to re-establish this sacred zone. However, if the margin is close to the osseous crest due to fracture or extensive caries and therefore resulting in excessive ostectomy that will compromise the adjacent teeth, surgical extrusion can be considered. Surgical extrusion involves controlled luxation and extrusion of the root, it may be compared with extrusive luxation of teeth which has a comparably favorable prognosis with a low incidence of root resorption. It is time to re-emphasize this forgotten dimension of the treatment option.

"Minimally Invasive Soft Tissue Grafting"

Soft tissue grafting has evolved from effective but invasive techniques to current minimally invasive, patient-friendly tunnel procedures. Palatal donor tissue and vertical incisions are no longer necessary for root coverage grafting, resulting in not only a better postoperative course, but also greater root coverage and better esthetics. Now, similar techniques can be applied to treat some soft tissue deficiencies at implant sites, avoiding more complex “start-over “ procedures. Surgical technique and indications for treatment will be illustrated with case examples.
"The Key to Meticulous Restorative Dentistry: The Adhesive Core Provisional Restoration and Biologic Shaping"

Today, it seems as though we are anxious to remove restorable severely damaged teeth and place implants. The goal of this presentation is to provide a methodology and protocol for doing an adhesive core and provisional to prepare a patient for periodontal corrective procedures. Without periodontal corrective procedures, many of our adult patients with existing restorative dentistry cannot be treated effectively. It is only after meticulous caries removal, and a perfectly restored cores as well as perio-restorative interface correction that a definitive restoration can be placed in a clean, dry and healthy environment that allows for long term success. These principles can be applied to the simplest single tooth ceramic crowns as well as the most complex perio-restorative full mouth reconstructions.

“Things We've Learned Along the way. Looking Back, Learning Forward”

Our profession is rich with concepts of how to address the function & dysfunction of the temporo-mandibular system. Many of the early and still popular etiologic theories are based on mechanical concepts of occlusion. While we can point to treatment success, there is very limited factual evidence to support these beliefs. We continue to be faced with an myriad of treatment options, all with the same evidence based challenges. If we are to utilize any of these mechanical designs in our restorative treatments, we must recognize the biologic diversity of every patient we treat. By developing a philosophy of blending time honored concepts with an understanding that each patient is unique, we can develop more appropriate strategies for successful treatment outcomes.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT: Attendees will earn 22 AGD PACE education units.