It is time to look at aesthetics from a new angle

Fig. 1. A new angle for aesthetics: the ASC abutment from NobelProcera allows the screw channel to be set at an angle between 0 and 25 degrees within a full 360-degree radius. In the anterior region, this makes screw-retained restorations possible where aesthetic considerations would previously have ruled them out. In the posterior region, it offers greater accessibility and retrievability.

Fig. 2. The unique pick-up function of the Omnigrip screwdriver must be experienced to be fully appreciated. The extraordinary level of grip improves handling and is designed to reduce the risk of the screw detaching in the patient’s mouth.

Fig. 3. The Omnigrip system is instantly distinguishable from other tooling by blue markings on both the screwdriver and screws.

_**True innovation** is about finding new and improved ways to do things. At Nobel Biocare, this means developing new products and solutions to help dental professionals treat more patients better. “Innovation” is a term that is used often, but at Nobel Biocare it is much more than just a word; it is a mission. The company’s Designing for Life strategy has innovation at its heart.

With the new NobelProcera Angulated Screw Channel (ASC) abutment and Nobel Biocare’s unique new Omnigrip tooling, true innovation has been achieved. These products allow clinicians to offer screw-retained restorations in a practical and aesthetic way that would previously have been impossible in some cases.

_**Increased restorative flexibility with no cement: It is as easy as A–S–C**_

With the NobelProcera ASC abutment, the screw channel can be placed with an angle of up to 25 degrees from the axis of the implant anywhere within a 360-degree radius. In the anterior aesthetic region, this makes it possible to use screw-retained restorations where a buccal screw access hole would previously have ruled them out. When designing the ASC abutment in the NobelProcera Software, the screw access hole can instead be positioned on the lingual side of the restoration. The patient therefore benefits from an optimally aesthetic result without any risk of the issues that can arise with excess cement. Using a screw-retained rather than a cement-retained solution also makes the restoration easier to retrieve.

_**Leading restorations now available for a leading implant connection**_

In the posterior region, the NobelProcera ASC comes into its own. When used for molars or premolars, the ability to tilt the screw channel into the most convenient position makes it easier for the clinician to place, and access, the restoration.

As a one-piece restoration, the NobelProcera ASC abutment requires less labour from the dental laboratory and so is produced more quickly, reducing costs. This, together with benefits such as improved aesthetics and easier maintenance, can increase the likelihood of patient acceptance. Moreover, once the patient is in the chair, placing just a single piece makes for a more comfortable experience.

The ASC option is available for zirconia abutments on narrow-platform and regular-platform implants with Nobel Biocare’s internal conical connection. This advanced connection is available for Nobel Biocare’s award-winning NobelActive family, as well as on NobelReplace Conical Conne-
tion and NobelReplace Conical Connection PMC (partially machined collar) implants. The conical connection offers a hexagonal internal locking mechanism for a tight seal and high mechanical strength.²

It also allows for platform shifting. This shift moves the implant–abutment junction on to the implant platform, thereby making room for the maximum volume of soft tissue to come up on to the platform edge safely. Platform shifting therefore encourages more natural-looking gingivae for an even better aesthetic result. Moving the junction further away from the bone has also been shown to reduce radiographically detectable crestal bone loss.³–⁵

Given that individualised abutments from NobelProcera allow the optimal emergence profile to be defined, the combined effect is designed to give an unrivalled soft-tissue result. Owing to a titanium adapter, this zirconia option can also be utilised in the posterior region, providing the clinician with an entirely new option for delivering the best possible restoration.

_A new channel of opportunity_

Together, the NobelProcera ASC abutment and the Omnigrip tooling offer clinicians not just new treatment possibilities, but opportunities to increase the number of screw-retained restorations they place. Being just one piece, the abutment represents an option that is efficient to produce, but with unique features and benefits that increase patient acceptance. Additionally, overcoming barriers to optimal aesthetics is also likely to improve patient satisfaction. Nobel Biocare innovates to help its customers treat more patients and to treat them better. These new products do just that.

**Editorial note:** A complete list of references is available from the publisher.

_Come to grips with better handling: Introducing Omnigrip tooling_

The benefits of the ASC abutment are only possible owing to the introduction of the associated Omnigrip tooling. Designed in-house by Nobel Biocare’s product development team, it is more than just a screwdriver; it is a driver of increased clinical success.

The unique tip of the Omnigrip screwdriver allows the screw to be tightened and loosened within the angulated channel with the same accessibility and torque as if the channel were straight. It allows easy handling from multiple angles, even in the posterior region. The pick-up feature of the special tip is an outstanding feature. The Omnigrip screwdriver grips and holds the screw equally tightly at any angle within the available range. Clinicians will not have experienced tooling like this before. Such is the level of grip that it has to be experienced to be believed. This capability offers convenience and, most importantly, safety. The Omnigrip screwdriver is designed to hold the screw firmly when it matters most: when the clinician is working in the patient’s mouth.

**Fig. 4 & 5.** Angulation in action: Using a screw-retained restoration in the anterior remains an aesthetic option as the screw access hole is pointed in the palatal direction. (Case courtesy of Dr Juan Zufia, Sr. Santiago Dalmau)

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