The advent of Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) has paved the way for clinicians to adopt the technology for a variety of different treatment modalities, including dental implants, oral surgery, orthodontics, endodontics, TMJs, airway analysis, sleep apnoea, guided surgery applications, and more. Many of these procedures and related concepts have been highlighted within the pages of cone beam magazine.

The use of CBCT diagnostic imaging has proved to be a vital, important, and perhaps invaluable tool to visualise patient anatomy in order to evaluate dental implant receptor sites and avoid adjacent vital anatomy. However, there are many potential sites which are found to be deficient in available bone width, height, and volume. These sites may be critical to the desired restorative outcome, and therefore may require additional pre-prosthetic surgery to ensure long term implant and soft-tissue stability. It is well-documented that hard- and soft-tissue grafting can play an important role in managing potential implant receptor sites. Pre-operative CBCT evaluation is becoming more and more important for the proper evaluation of deficient sites.

The use of CBCT and interactive treatment planning software applications are continuing to evolve as an aid to helping clinicians improve their appreciation of sites deficient in available bone, and to plan the most appropriate treatment alternative for each patient’s needs. The planning process has been enhanced through the use of pre-surgical diagnostic models, intra-oral scanning, simulated virtual bone grafting, fixation or tenting screw placement, and the use of 3-D printing to create biomedical models, and more.

It is our goal for the readers of cone beam magazine to be exposed to the many evolving uses of CBCT imaging modalities and how CBCT serves as a foundation for many procedures that go well “beyond” dental implants. Perhaps the incredible potential will be realized as multiple technologies are merged together to define the most efficient and cost effective digital workflow.

Please enjoy our latest publication, and expand your horizons!

Dr Scott D. Ganz
Editor-in-Chief