Immediate implant placement in aesthetic zone, followed by final restoration using CARES Digital Solutions

Initial Situation

A 21-year-old male patient presented to the Clinic Beleza do Sorrizo in São Paulo, Brazil, with a fractured element in tooth 21. He was dissatisfied with the aesthetics in the anterior segment of the maxilla and had multiple active carious lesions in the interproximal regions of teeth 11, 12 and 22 (Figs. 1 & 2).

Treatment planning

The aim of planning is to set out a path to ensure the best possible outcome for a specific goal. In high performance dentistry, diagnosis and treatment planning are key elements of success. The first step in this case was to evaluate the patient’s medical history and to confirm that he was in good general health. When starting any aesthetic rehabilitation treatment, a number of aspects must be considered: bone architecture, periodontal biotype, interproximal bone crest level, and smile line. Plaster study models were then created, which, along with photographic documentation and imaging examinations, helped to identify the root fracture on tooth 21 and slight buccal bone loss. We used the concept Digital Reverse Planning (DRP), which allows full virtual planning, from the bone defect arising from the tooth extraction up to the final outcome of the ideal three-dimensional positioning of the implant in order to obtain the desired aesthetic result.

We opted for the extraction of tooth 21 and immediate implant placement. All the necessary information obtained through tomography was transferred to the software and a virtual guide was accurately designed. The customised guide was milled without metal washers and based on precise measurements to ensure precision placement of the Bone Level Roxolid SLActive 3.3 x 14 mm implant (Figs. 3–5).

After placement, the implant was immediately temporised; the adjacent decayed teeth were properly cleaned and prepared for ceramic fragments in order to correct dental rotations and enhance the aesthetics of the anterior region.
Surgical procedure

The planning of the immediate implant enables us to reduce treatment time, leading to greater patient satisfaction and less bone resorption, as well as optimising function and aesthetics from the very first surgical step. In order to achieve successful implant treatments, a review of the literature shows that minimally traumatic surgery is essential, thus preserving the alveolar architecture and surrounding soft tissue. After probing the proximal bone crests, we performed the extraction of tooth 21 and careful socket curettage. The customised surgical guide was adapted and stabilised (Fig. 6); the placement followed the predetermined position and recommended torque for the Bone Level Roxolid SLActive implant, selected for the combination of Roxolid material and the SLActive surface that increases the resistance for small diameter implants. This provides greater confidence and peace of mind for the resolution of anatomically challenging cases. The occlusal adjustment is a crucial step for a predictable case outcome, to ensure that forces are not transmitted to the implant sooner than expected, thus compromising the final result of the procedure. The patient must receive proper instruction in hygiene and postoperative care (Figs. 7–9).
Unexpected situation

Unexpectedly, 18 days after the implant placement, the patient had a cut-contusion lesion with loss of substance of the lower lip. He reported having undergone direct physical assault with a blunt object. The examination showed considerable mobility of the provisional implant prosthesis, albeit without signs of inflammation in the region.

The provisional prosthesis was removed and, to our pleasant surprise, it was found that implant stability had been maintained and only the prosthesis screw had loosened due to the trauma suffered. Immediately, in a single step, we proceeded with the preparation of the ceramic prosthetic parts and the impression of the whole region, including the implant, as described below (Figs. 10 & 11).

Prosthetic procedure

The excellent treatment surface of the Roxolid SLActive implant allows definitive implant activation to be initiated within 21 days. In this case, however, due to the circumstances, the rehabilitation procedures began at 18 days.
Ceramic fragments were prepared for teeth 12, 11 and 21 with diamond drills and ultrasonic tips; tissue control was carried out in the region and the impression post was installed on the implant and customised, so that the surrounding soft tissue could be accurately reproduced (Figs. 12 & 13). The CAD/CAM system technology allows amazing accuracy, providing better functional and economic benefits to patients. The implant prosthesis was made following the CARES approach on the Straumann Variobase abutment, which allows exact engagement of the coping to the Straumann Variobase abutment with its four engaging grooves. For scanning and modelling of the case, the Dental Wings platform was used to design the implant prosthesis and the ceramic for the adjacent teeth (Figs. 14 & 15). The milling was done in zirconia for later application of ceramic coverage, characterisation and customisation of the elements. The parts were tested in the mouth and, after adjustment, were properly etched and cemented (Figs. 16–21).

Final result

At four months’ follow-up, the surrounding tissues and occlusion were stable. The patient was satisfied and the radiographic appearance was satisfactory (Figs. 22–25).

Conclusion

Despite the complications in this case, resulting in the need to activate the implant on the 18th day post-placement, the Bone Level Roxolid SLActive provided a very satisfactory outcome, demonstrating its stability, superior strength and surface treatment, even under extreme circumstances.

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