Three possible steps into a digital workflow

Starting with an intraoral scan, explore more about three innovative ways to implement a digital workflow in daily practice.

By Dentistry Sirona

Intraoral scanners are now becoming commonplace in dental surgeries, as dentistry moves increasingly towards a fully digital workflow. Impressions taking has long been recognized as one of the more uncomfortable experiences for patients and a time-consuming process for dental practitioners. However, thanks to digital intraoral scanners such as the revolutionary Primescan® and well-established Omnicam from Dentistry Sirona, alongside major developments in CAD/CAM technologies, the digital workflow is now revolutionizing the standards of restorative treatment.

Dentistry Sirona aims to help dental professionals streamline their workflow through three digital workflows. We refer to these as i) seamless, ii) validated and iii) open.

The seamless workflow refers to Dentistry Sirona equipment, software and materials as an end-to-end solution designed to meet the needs of both practices and laboratories. With optimized interaction of hardware and software, even the most complex treatments can be planned and executed with confidence.

These digital workflows enable digital treatments in orthodontics, indirect restorations and dental implants.

1. The seamless workflow

The seamless workflow works to Dentistry Sirona equipment, software and materials as an end-to-end solution designed to meet the needs of both practices and laboratories. With optimized interaction of hardware and software, even the most complex treatments can be planned and executed with confidence.

When planning for implant restoration for instance, having taken an intraoral scan with Primescan you can send the scan directly to your preferred laboratory partner to outsource patient-specific CAD/CAM abutments. An alternative, temporary or final prosthetic solutions can be seamlessly designed and milled at the chairside using CEREC, providing a restorative solution in a single visit and guiding clinicians the distinct advantage of having full control of the restorative programme.

2. The validated workflow

The validated workflow works to the same principle, but involves using third party solutions validated by Dentistry Sirona, to ensure specific safety and efficiency standards are maintained. This allows secure data transfer to approved laboratories or external service providers for a wide range of applications including clear aligners, retainers and implant guides.

3. The open workflow

The open workflow offers clinicians total choice and flexibility. After taking an intraoral scan, the clinician can export an open STL file and use it on any equipment and workflow options including CAD/CAM design and manufacturing in practice, outsourcing to any chosen laboratory or milling centre as well as collaboratively implant, orthodontic or restorative treatment planning.

Primescan opens doors

Designed to support a range of digital workflows, Primescan offers the choice of seamless, validated and open transfer options. The 3D data can be further processed using software as part of planning for specific treatment areas including clear aligners in orthodontics and guides for dental implants.

Thanks to Primescan’s unprecedented accuracy, powerful processing speeds and ease of use, not only is the taking of digital impressions now much easier, but every step along the preferred digital pathway is integrated and efficient. Transparently priced, open, validated and future-proof, Primescan is your exciting first step into any digital workflow.

ADA supports point-of-care COVID-19 testing by dentists

By Dental Tribune USA

CHICAGO, ILL., USA: According to a new policy from the American Dental Association, point-of-care testing to screen patients for chronic diseases and other medical conditions, including COVID-19, that could complicate dental care or put the patient and dental staff at risk is within a dentist’s scope of practice. “Yet currently, rapid and reliable COVID-19 tests are not available to dentists for in-office use, which makes no sense,” states ADA President Dr. Daniel Klemmedson.

Klemmedson, who holds degrees in both dentistry and medicine, points out that dentists are doctors of oral health. “It is within dentists’ scope of practice to screen for COVID-19, particularly during dental procedures when appropriate, dentists perform,” Klemmedson said.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration includes dentists among those professionals who can test for COVID-19. In addition, the CDC recommends dental facilities consider implementing pre-procedure testing for COVID-19, particularly during PPE shortages.

The ADA and state dental societies are actively advocating state and federal regulatory authorities to publicly recognize that point-of-care testing for COVID-19 is within dentists’ existing scope of practice, and make COVID-19 tests available for use in dental practices.

“With dental practices reopened across the country, dentists are already screening patients for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, and referring patients for appropriate medical follow-up when indicated,” Klemmedson said. “Unfortunately, such screening alone will not identify all individuals who are infected. Identifying infected patients is key to being able to protect both patients and dental team members from exposure to the virus.”

Given that patients receiving dental treatment may be pre-symptomatic (infected but will develop symptoms in the next 14 days) or asymptomatic (infected but will never exhibit signs or symptoms of disease), Klemmedson said it is critical to identify those individuals carrying the virus so that it is possible to minimize their contacting and potentially infecting others.

(Source: ADA)