CEREC and single visit dentistry

By Dr Mohamed Hassani, Egypt

We caught up with the Owner of Computerized Dental Center (CDC), Egypt, Dr Mohamed Hassani, CDC is comprised of predominantly Dentistry Sirona equipment and consumable products as part of their commitment to offer the best possible service to their patients, with digital dentistry at the heart of their practice.

Please briefly explain how long you have been working at CDC and your background in dentistry.

CDC has been in operation for 16 years. I worked for 12 years as a Prosthodontist at the old CDC Helipolis branch which only had two operating rooms. I then opened our second fully digital branch, CDC Sheraton, with another three operating rooms and a 3D cone beam facility, which has been fully functioning for 4 years now.

I started working in my own private lab to do my lab work myself with the conventional techniques until I bought my first inlab MCXL in 2002. I used to be a clinician at the same time.

Please tell us about your specialties within your practice?

CDC offers multiple specialties for maximum patient care and satisfaction:

- Fixed Prosthodontics - all-ceramic crown and bridge solutions to complete smile makeovers and full mouth restorations.
- Restorative - root canal treatments and teeth restorations
- Implantology - implant solutions and bone augmentation.
- Periodontology - gum care and surgeries
- 3D-CBCT and diagnostics
- Paediatric treatments and oral prophylaxis
- Orthodontics treatments and aligners
- Oral hygiene and bleaching

What triggered your initial interest in digital dentistry?

I've always been interested in technology and that naturally led me into the field of modern digital dentistry. Patient satisfaction has also always been my ultimate goal and so digital dentistry offered lots of clinical merits such as precision, speed, ease and overall control of the treatment protocols.

How long have you been working with Dentistry Sirona products?

I have been working with Dentistry Sirona for 16 years in my own private practice, however my university was fully equipped with Dentistry Sirona equipment as well, so their products and tools were part of my foundation in my educational journey.

When did you invest in your first piece of Dentistry Sirona equipment, and what was it?

My first piece of Dentistry Sirona equipment was a C2 treatment center in 2003.

Your practice uses Dentistry Sirona products and equipment predominantly. What would you say is the advantage to your workflow and your practice by making this decision?

The equipment is the highest quality from Germany and that is definitely reflected in the clinical outcome. The ease and simplicity of all the clinical workflow steps and superior after sales technical support and care means that my practice is as efficient as possible.

How do you find the CEREC workflow? From scanning the tooth to grinding/milling and sintering/firing?

The CEREC workflow is simply amazing, and exactly what I wanted from a chairside solution. I have full control over the treatment plan phases. I closely evaluate the clinical situation depending on the clinical case and prepare and scan easily, drawing my margins the way I want them to be, respecting my preps and changing my parameters accordingly, depending on the material selection. I choose whether I want to grind my restorations or even use the extra fine grinding mode for superior precision and fine margins. I have the option to wet mill or dry mill my zirconia based crowns for the best fit. With the CEREC SpeedFire I can sinter, stain and glaze chairside and deliver my restorations on the same day. Put simply, with CEREC, I feel like the master who has full control of each clinical workflow step.

Why did you choose CEREC over other CAD/CAM systems?

CEREC is a high end CAD/CAM solution that has been in the market for more than 30 years with the highest clinical performance and precision. Lots of CEREC milled restorations and specimens are being tested and evaluated in research centres all over the world. In addition there are thousands of clinical follow up cases, with over 20 years of successful clinical performance, published in international journals. The global popularity of CEREC is an added advantage, with lots of cases are being discussed across hundreds of training centres and online training websites, and therefore the learning curve is faster for new users.

Just Google CEREC and you will find more than 2 million search results! Can you explain your experience with the Dentistry Sirona sales process, from initial interest through to purchase and after-sales support?

Dentistry Sirona sales reps I've dealt with have been very helpful and are highly qualified. All my purchases have been very smooth and accommodating. Mell-Tech in Egypt (authorised Dentistry Sirona dealer), also offered high end after sales technical support.

What are the types of cases you do with CEREC? E.g. restoration, implantology, orthodontics.

The question should actually be "What can’t I do with CEREC?" Simply, I do everything with CEREC. Inlays, onlays, endocrowns, full crowns, micro prep veneers, veneers, bridges, screw retained implant abutments, cement retained implant abutments and surgical guides. Now CEREC is not only a quadrant solution, it’s a full mouth solution.

How has CEREC and single-visit dentistry been in the satisfaction of your patients?

Patient satisfaction is very important for me. Patients will often take videos of the milling process and share it over their social media platforms. They are very happy having an aesthetic restoration to the highest degree of precision, all in a single visit. I also get a lot of referrals from their families and friends after they have shared their treatment experience.

How has CEREC and digital dentistry impacted your business?

Year on year my business has increased thanks to the implementation of digital dentistry in my practice and my list of patients is growing every year.

In your opinion, can you achieve a high return on investment with CEREC and digital dentistry?

Definitely, CEREC and digital dentistry are a good investment if they are used the right way. I haven’t met a CEREC owner who regretted the decision of investing in CEREC. It’s now a lifestyle for me.

What would you say was your goal with CEREC and would you say you have achieved this yet?

My goal with CEREC was to use it for a lifestyle for me.

What do you think your biggest achievement has been in your career to this point and how did Dentistry Sirona help to make that a reality?

Stepping into the field of digital dentistry has been a great achievement in my career. Dentistry Sirona’s technology development and continuous support definitely had a positive impact and made my dream come true.

By Dr Mohamed Hassani, Egypt

Owner of Computerized Dental Center (CDC)

Graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Dentistry from Cairo University in 1992. He graduated with a Master of Science degree in Fixed Prosthodontics, Faculty of Dentistry - Cairo University in 2008. Later in 2013, he had completed his PhD degree in Fixed Prosthodontics from Cairo University.

CEH-related and inlab user for 10 years

ALCD Certified CEREC Trainer (2011 to present)

Dentistry Sirona certified inlab trainer