A ‘First Touch’ with new glove from Cranberry

Tissue integration made easy

Most dental implants today are made of a single material, although integration into hard and soft tissue requires different materials. Because of this, the TBR Group in France has redefined dental implants and developed a hybrid system that optimises integration in both bone tissue and gingiva.

The result of this process will be exhibited at IDS 2009: the TBR Hybrid implant. This one-stage titanium implant with a zirconia transcementing collar promises to be more resistant than a regular titanium implant because it combines the mechanical advantages of titanium in flexion and those of zirconia in compression, the company says.

According to Julien Benhamou, CEO of the TBR Group, following over seven years of studies and articles in the Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Implants and the Journal of Applied Biomaterial and Biomechanics, his company found that zirconia is an optimal material for gingiva-integration because, compared with titanium, it features no significant bacterial colonisation. Additionally, it is dense, smooth as glass, and offers perfect transparency for high aesthetic results.

“Titanium is recognised as a very adapted material for bone integration, but we saw that it was not the best material for gingiva integration with regard to bacterial colonisation, grey transparencies, and aesthetic results,” Benhamou said.

TBR’s new hybrid zirconia–titanium technology, which received the Frost and Sullivan Award for Technological Innovation in 2007, is available in 45 countries and will be shown at IDS 2009 in Cologne. It is CE certified and has received clearance from the US Food and Drug Administration.

www.tbr-group.com

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