Fig. 2: The provisional prostheses fit well and afforded the patient a trial period to evaluate the proposed restoration for esthetics and function over a period of weeks. Note that the gingival shade was adjusted for the fabrication of the final restoration.

The final restoration was fabricated using the CAD design that was confirmed during the provisional trial period. The final prostheses were delivered without complication, exhibiting excellent fit, occlusion and esthetics (Fig. 3).

The patient was exceptionally pleased with the function offered by this fixed restoration, which he should be able to enjoy for a great number of years given the extraordinary durability of BruxZir Solid Zirconia.

DENTSPLY donates $55,000 in product to America’s ToothFairy

DENTSPLY International has donated more than $55,000 in oral care products to National Children’s Oral Health Foundation: America’s ToothFairy® (NCOHF) to support its nonprofit clinical network of oral health programs serving vulnerable children.

The donation, which included prophy paste, brush tips, polish and stain removal products, benefitted 25 America’s ToothFairy affiliates — community-based health-care facilities and outreach programs providing vital educational, preventive and restorative services to underserved populations.

“DENTSPLY proudly supports the America’s ToothFairy affiliate network for its smile-saving work helping children in need,” said Robert Size, senior vice president of DENTSPLY International and NCOHF Board member. “As a longtime supporter, we applaud their commitment to helping children receive the pediatric dental care they need to live healthy lives.”

“DENTSPLY’s steadfast underwriting and product support has helped America’s ToothFairy change thousands of young lives,” said Fern Ingber, NCOHF president and CEO. “This generous product contribution from DENTSPLY will support America’s ToothFairy programs that provide vital oral health services for children of our most vulnerable populations.”

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By Mark Duncan, DDS, FAGD, LVIF, DICOI, FICCMO, Clinical Director, LVI

As a patient, I expect the best care I can find. As a doctor, I want to deliver the best care possible. That takes us to the power of continuing education, and as doctors we are faced with many choices in continuing education.

As a way to introduce you to the Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies, or LVI, I want to outline what LVI is about and what void it fills in your practice. The alumni who have completed programs at LVI were given an independent survey, and unlike the typical surveys, 99.7 percent said they love practicing dentistry, and of those surveyed, 92 percent said they enjoy their profession more since they started their training at LVI. That alone is reason enough to go to LVI and find out more.

While the programs at LVI cover the breadth of dentistry, the most powerful and life-changing program is generally reported as Core I, “Advanced Functional Dentistry: The Power of Physiologic-Based Occlusion.”

Take control of your practice
This program is a three-day course that is designed for doctors and their teams to learn together about the power of getting their patients’ physiology on their side. In this program, doctors can learn how to start the process of taking control of their practice and start to enjoy the full benefits of owning their practice and providing high-quality dentistry.

Whether he or she works in a solo practice or in a group setting, every doctor can start the process of creating comprehensive care experiences for his or her patients.

We will discuss why some cases that doctors are asked by their patients to do are actually dangerous cases to restore cosmetically. We will discover the developmental science behind how unattractive smiles evolve and what cases may need the help of auxiliary health care professionals to get the patient feeling better.

The impact of musculoskeletal signs and symptoms will be explored and how the supporting soft tissue is the most important diagnostic tool you have — not simply the gingiva, but the entire soft-tissue support of the structures not just in the mouth but also in the rest of the body.

Comprehensive care
A successful restorative practice doesn’t need to be built on insurance reimbursement schedules. An independent business should stand not on the whims and distractions of a fee schedule but rather on the ideal benefits of comprehensive care balanced by the patients’ needs and desires. Dentistry is a challenging and thankless business, but it doesn’t have to be. Through complete and comprehensive diagnosis, there is an amazing world of thank-yous and hugs and tears that our patients bring to us, but only when we can change their lives. The Core I program at LVI is the first step on that journey.

That’s why when you call, we will answer the phone, “LVI, where lives are changing daily!”

Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies offers Core I, a three-day course for doctors and their teams. Photo/Provided by Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies

LVI Core I three-day course teaches comprehensive patient care process
Teaming up with Little League Baseball and Softball, the annual contest calls on players ages 8-14 to create a compelling, 10-word phrase describing the dangers of spit tobacco for a chance to win a trip to the Little League Baseball World Series and a cash prize.

“It’s an awesome program, and I told him that the most important thing is that maybe you’ll convince someone not to start,” said Alex’s mother, Beth Smith. “That’s the whole key — if you don’t start, then you don’t have to quit.”

The recent tragic loss of Tony Gwynn to oral cancer highlights the fact that educating Americans about the dangers of spit tobacco is more important than ever. The latest numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that while cigarette use continues to decline, spit tobacco use remains the same. In addition, almost half of all new users start before the age of 18, with 8.8 percent of all high school students using smokeless tobacco as of 2013. Through the slogan contest and other advocacy and education efforts throughout the year, NSTEP works to educate people, especially young people, about spit tobacco and helps all users quit.

“NSTEP provides Little League athletes with an opportunity to start a dialogue about an alarming trend in tobacco use on and off the field,” said Beth Truett, president and CEO of Oral Health America. “We are thrilled about the enthusiasm of youth engaging their peers with an important message about the dangers of smokeless tobacco.”

As the winner of the slogan contest, Alex received an all-expense paid trip to the Little League Baseball World Series in South Williamsport, Pa., and a cash prize. In addition, OHA is donating $500 to Alex’s local Little League program, the Falls Church Kiwanis Little League.

“Little League is pleased to be a part of helping educate Little League players about the risks associated with the use of spit tobacco,” said Stephen D. Keener, Little League president and CEO. “We hope that by participating in the slogan contest we help increase awareness for Little League players, coaches and their parents. We thank Oral Health America and commend them on NSTEP’s efforts.”

The winning slogan was chosen out of nearly 1,500 submissions from Little Leaguers from across the country, a contest record.

To learn more about spit tobacco, please visit www.nstep.org. There you will find brochures with resources to help current users quit and fact sheets that explain exactly why smokeless isn’t harmless (Source: Oral Health America).
‘Adaptive Image Noise Optimizer’ results in noise-free 3-D imaging

Crystal clear images support precise diagnostics

The ProMax® 3Ds and 3D units from Planmeca (California Dental Association exhibit hall booth No. 1636/1936) are designed for capturing the smallest anatomical details with precision. High-resolution images with a 75 μm voxel size and efficient artifact removal make these units ideal for effective case planning and precise diagnostic capabilities, according to the company.

Versatile, selectable volume sizes on the ProMax ensure observance of the ALARA radiation principle; these include 5-by-5 and 5-by-8 cm for the ProMax 3Ds and 4-by-5, 4-by-8, 8-by-5 and 8-by-8 for the ProMax 3D.

Noise-free images

The Planmeca AINO™ (Adaptive Image Noise Optimizer) is an intelligent 3-D noise filter that removes noise from CBCT images without losing valuable details. The result is a crystal clear, highly diagnostic image, according to the company. Features include:

• Analyzes the reconstruction exposure data during reconstruction and adaptively differentiates noise and fine details.
• AINO filter is enabled in Planmeca Romexis® 3D capturing screen, while the original image is also stored and accessible.
• Improves image quality in endodontic mode where noise is inherent because of small voxel sizes.
• Also useful in ultra low-dose images.

Artifact removal

Planmeca ARA™ artifact removal algorithm removes shadows and streaks from the 3-D image, such as those caused by metal and root fillings, according to Planmeca.

Ideal patient support

The adjustable patient support keeps the patient firmly and comfortably in place, providing high-quality images without artifacts caused by movement, according to Planmeca.

Comprehensive Planmeca Romexis software

All ProMax® units include Planmeca Romexis open-architecture software with versatile tools for endodontic diagnostic and treatment planning needs, such as true measurements and 3-D visualization of root canals. CBCT applications in endodontics include:

• Assessment of endodontic treatment complications.
Conclusions

It is clear a correctly functioning tongue acts as a natural retainer, but when a patient habitually breathes through his or her mouth, the tongue is prevented from functioning in this correct way. In contrast, when the mouth remains closed and the tongue sits correctly, increased orthodontic stability can be expected.

Furthermore, when a patient maintains a closed-mouth posture and high-tongue posture, treatment time can be expected to lessen as forces exerted on the teeth and jaws will work favorably. Finally, it has been well-documented mouth breathing is not in the best interests of health, growth and correct development. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume encouraging correct functional breathing patterns will have a much more far-reaching effect than just correcting crooked teeth and jaws. Simply fixing the teeth and jaws is potentially missing a huge piece of the puzzle at the expense of possible health gains and future orthodontic stability.

References


Wykle Research offers Calasept Endo products, which it distributes for Nordiska Dental of Sweden, the manufacturer of Calasept and Calasept Plus.

Calasept Irrigation Needles are high-quality, double-side-vented, luer-lock irrigation needles that optimize the cleansing of canals, creating a “swirl effect.” The needles are available in 27 g or 31 g, in packs of 40 needles.

Features include the following:
• Bendability
• Luer-lock hub
• Sterile and disposable
• Designed for ease in cleaning roots
• High-quality stainless steel

Calasept Irrigation Syringes are 3 ml luer-lock, single-use syringes. They are color coded to eliminate risk when using multiple irrigation liquids. They are available in packs of 20 syringes, 10 white and 10 green.

Features include the following:
• High-quality, three-part syringe
• Color coded
• Luer lock

These products complement Wykle’s popular Calasept line, which includes Calasept and Calasept Plus calcium hydroxide paste for temporary filling of root canals, sold in packages of four syringes with 20 needles. Calasept EDTA is 17 percent EDTA solution. Calasept CHX is 2 percent chlorhexidine solution for irrigation. Both solutions are packaged with a luer adaptor for easy filling of syringes. For more information, contact Wykle Research at (800) 859-6641 or visit the company online, at www.wykleresearch.com.

(Source: Wykle Research)