From Chicago to China

ICOI expands scope of implant education

By Craig Johnson, ICOI

The International Congress of Oral Implantologists (ICOI), the world’s largest implant organization, founded more than 35 years ago, is changing directions. Yet, solely because of our commitment to total team education for each member’s office, we are also “staying the course.”

In Chicago this August, we will spotlight presentations with both surgical implant placement and completion of cases from a prosthetic viewpoint.

Dual podium, or joint presentations, will take us from diagnosis to final restoration for a number of different cases, simple to complex, utilizing multiple techniques. The emphasis will be on implant prosthethics, but this is a “must” meeting for those who place implants.

The 11th Annual Implant Prosthetic Symposium, offering “Innovative and Practical Implant Prosthetics,” will be Aug. 22–24. The program is as follows:

Peri-implant biotype enhancement using interpositional connective tissue grafts

By Dr. Nicholas Caplanis

Following tooth extraction, physiologic wound healing leads to alterations in gingival architecture including alveolar bone resorption, gingival recession and papilla loss. This is especially common in patients with thin periodontal biotypes. These alterations very often compromise tissue morphology and lead to esthetic challenges with implant restorations.

Numerous surgical techniques are available to reconstruct post extraction defects. However, the old cliché, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure” very much applies to the extraction defect and all efforts should be made to minimize these morphologic changes. It is technically easier and less costly to preserve the alveolus at the time of tooth extraction as opposed to enhancing it following physiologic remodeling.

Therefore, various procedures and materials have been recom