With implants, needs of aging population trump recession

Tooth loss among the elderly population will create some growth in the $5 billion global dental implant market despite the recession, according to “Implant-Based Dental Reconstruction: World Dental Implant and Bone Graft Market, 3rd Edition” by life sciences market research publisher Kalorama Information, though not the impressive double digit growth rates of prior years.

“The numbers so far suggest that basic restorative work, preventive, day-to-day procedures will continue unabated by the economic downturn, though teeth-whitening and purely cosmetic dentistry will suffer,” said Bruce Carlson, analyst for Kalorama Information. “These are big purchases and in a recession, tenta-

New opportunities in implant dentistry at AAID annual meeting

More than 1,600 dentists, allied staff and exhibitors are expected to attend the American Academy of Implant Dentistry’s (AAID) annual scientific conference from Nov. 11–15 in New Orleans. The event is highly regarded in the dental profession as an innovative and valuable opportunity for continuing education, product demonstrations and networking.

The theme for the AAID meeting, to be held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside hotel, is “New Opportunities in Implant Dentistry,” and the comprehensive scientific program will showcase an international cast of speakers and offer as many as 24 hours of comprehensive dental implant continuing education. The schedule of presentations along with abstracts and registration is avail-

Latch-head hex tool guided implant uncovering using the punch technique

In William E. Mason DDS, MS, PC

Dental implants are considered a highly predictable and accepted technique for the replacement of lost teeth.1–5 Brånemark and coworkers proposed the original osseointegrated implant technique.4–6 This involved a healing period of three to six months before the implants were surgically exposed and restored.4–8

It has been demonstrated since that a “one-stage” approach with or without immediate loading is a predictable technique.9–13 However, in cases where extensive guided bone regeneration is necessary or there is inadequate initial implant stability, a “two-stage” approach is recommended.9

Fig. 1: #12 scalpel is used to locate the hex depression in the center of the cover screw.