Session: ‘How to avoid implant catastrophes’

Catastrophic implant failure will be the topic of the Academy of Osseointegration’s 2011 Annual Meeting’s closing session, as academy members and guests review “Major Catastrophes and How to Avoid or Handle Them,” on Saturday, March 5.

“Exploring catastrophic failures helps to further our professional knowledge, since we tend to learn most from mistakes,” explained Annual Meeting Program Committee Chair Dr. Tara Aghaloo of Los Angeles. “This session will offer an excellent educational opportunity for clinicians, whether they are new to the field or have many years of experience.”

Attorney Michael Ragan will open the program with a presentation on implant claims, damages and remedies. Other AO annual Meeting high-lights will include:

• "Two-Track” Scientific Program: The Surgical Track will explore prosthetic concepts, computer-guided implant dentistry, hard- and soft-tissue augmentation and how to determine success. The Restorative Track will cover maxillary overdentures, short implants, digital impressions and CAD/CAM restorations and other surgical concepts. (Saturday, March 5).

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International Symposium debut

The International Symposium, to be held Friday, March 4, will offer presentations by a combination of established and up-and-coming speakers. The symposium will be moderated by Drs. Mark Handelsman, Santa Monica, Calif., and Kenji Higuchi, Spokane, Wash., and topics and presenters include:

• "Evidence-Based Protocols for Aesthetic Dentistry" by Dr. Carlos Araujo of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

• "Accuracy of Computer-Guided Implant Placement Using a Macosa-Supported Surgical Template" by Dr. Dehua Li of Xi’an, China.

• "Future Horizons for Growth Factor Applications in Implant Reconstruction," by Dr. Henning Schliephake of Gottingen, Germany.

• "Esthetic Design in Complex Cases," by Dr. Fernando Rojas of Viscaya, Castellon, Spain.

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‘Point/Counterpoint’ approach to implant controversies

“Point/Counterpoint” sessions will provide a forum for debate on “Treatment of the Esthetic Zone,” Friday, March 4.


• "Papilla Augmentation: Prosthetic Considerations vs. Soft-Tissue Augmentation," by Dr. Christian Coachman, Sao Paulo, Brazil, will outline a three-dimensional prosthetic reconstruction option to enhance soft-tissue architecture.

• "Traditional Flap Approach vs. Flapless Surgery," clinical evidence demonstrating the advantages of flapless surgery will be presented by Dr. Stephen T. Chen, IV, of Melbourne, Australia. Dr. Anthony G. Sclar of Miami, Fla., will specify individual case factors for determining use of a traditional flap versus a minimally invasive approach.

• "Immediate Implant Provisional Restoration," Dr. Stephen J. Chu of New York, N.Y., will advocate on behalf of immediate placement by addressing current concepts, research and innovations and how they enhance treatment.

• "Guidelines for Selecting Implant/Prosthetic Protocols in the Esthetic Zone," Dr. German O. Gallego of New York, N.Y., will present an analysis of clinical considerations within the context of their direct application to esthetic implant/prosthetic rehabilitations and current scientific evidence.

The point-counterpoint format will also drive debate during the meeting’s opening symposium, “Contraversies in Implant Dentistry” on Thursday, March 3.

“Both the opening symposium and ‘Point/Counterpoint’ sessions will feature respected implant professionals debating ongoing controversies, while audience members will engage in the discussion through use of audience response technol-

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Dr. Tara Aghaloo

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AO Annual Meeting’s Allied Staff Programs offer concurrent sessions designed for dental lab technicians and hygienists. The daylong series of programs will focus on topics that range from growing a surgical implant practice and contemporary implant maintenance to CAD/CAM information and new products. (Saturday, March 5)

Allied staff sessions will emphasize the importance of the team approach to patient care,” Aghaloo said. “New technologies and clinical applications are being introduced at an increasingly rapid rate. It is essential that allied staff professionals understand these concepts and how they apply to implant dental practice.”

Complete program and registration information for the 2011 AO Annual Meeting is available online at the academy’s website at www.osseo.org.

(Source: Academy of Osseointegration)