For nearly 100 years, dentists have relied on 2-D radiographic imaging for diagnosis and treatment planning. With the 1999 introduction of cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT), all dentists now have tools available for more accurate diagnosis and treatment.1 The ability to look at a tooth in any direction and orientation, as well as in 3-D, eliminates much of the guesswork commonly experienced with 2-D radiographs.

We have been limited in most cases to only a buccal-lingual view provided by periapicals, bitewings and panoramic radiographs with the occasional axial view of an occlusal film. Medical CT scans and images began in the early 1970s and were sometimes used by dentists, offering our first multi-planer views.2

The adoption of 3-D cone-beam imaging is appropriate and has important advantages for all modalities of dentistry. From every specialist to the general dentist, the increased amount of radiographic information as well as increased accuracy will aid in the most sound diagnosis possible.

CBCT description
CBCT is a single or partial rotation of an X-ray source around the head, capturing X-rays on various flat panel arrays and sensors. The information is converted to a series of axial slices by computed tomography and stored as 3-D arrays and sensors. The information is converted to a series of axial slices by computed tomography and stored as

Clinical and diagnostic advantages of PreXion 5-D imaging system

By Dan McEowen, DDS

The ability to look at a tooth in any direction and orientation, as well as in 3-D, eliminates much of the guesswork commonly experienced with 2-D radiographs.

The authors of an article in the Journal of Oral Implantology report on a study of individuals with the combination of interleukin (IL)-1 allele 2 at IL-1A−889 and IL-1B+3954. These people are “genotype positive” and susceptible to increased periodontal tissue destruction. Peri-implantitis, or the process of tissue inflammation and destruction around failing implants, is very similar to periodontal disease. The researchers sought to find any association of these genotypes with the severity of peri-implantitis progression and the effect of this combination on treatment outcomes. This study compared two groups of patients, all of whom had implants. The first group consisted of 25 patients with peri-implantitis, while the second group of 25 patients had healthy tissue. Seventeen patients from the first group and five from the second group were genotype positive.

Patients in the first group, those with peri-implantitis, took part in a treatment and maintenance program. The genotype-positive patients in this group experienced greater periodontal tissue destruction and increased discharge from tissues. The genotype-negative patients responded better to treatment. Statistically significant differences were noted between the groups.

The combination of these two alleles in patients with inflamed periodontal tissues denotes a risk factor that can lead to further tissue destruction. Patients with the specific genotype can have exaggerated local inflammation. Gene polymorphism may affect the outcomes of treatment for peri-implantitis in genotype-positive people and affect the long-term success of implants.


About the Journal of Oral Implantology
The Journal of Oral Implantology is the official publication of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and of the American Academy of Implant Prosthodontics. For more information about the journal or society, visit www.joionline.org/orimonline/?request=index-html.
aspects of implant dentistry, with a focus on expanding technologies that enhance the daily practice for the GP, the specialist, dental auxiliary and dental laboratory technician.

The scientific program will begin on Thursday afternoon, Aug. 18, with a focus on the latest in esthetics and prosthetic reconstruction techniques.

Friday will feature recent innovations in guided surgery applications and treatment of the atrophic patient as presented from the clinician and laboratory technician perspective.

The program will conclude on Saturday with presentations on occlusion, over-denture concepts, complications and advancements in restorative components.

Dr. Scott Ganz has arranged the scientific program, which features speakers including Drs. Natalie Wong, Michael Moskovitch, Philippe Russe, Lampert Stumpel, Thomas Balshi, Dwayne Karetteew, Michael Pikos, Jack Krauser, Konstantinos Valavanis, Barry Goldenberg, Aldo Leopardi, Carl Misch, Paul Wiegeland, Maurizio Steigmann, Hom-Lay Wang, Ady Palti, Zeev Ornianian, Roberto Marra and dental technicians Stephen Balshi, Renzo Casellini and Ulrich Hauschild and many more.

The ICOI is an ADA CRMP and AGD PACE Recognized Provider. This symposium is designated for 19 continuing education credits.

Preceding the general session, there will be six pre-symposium workshops on Thursday morning offered by the two Gold sponsors, Nobel Biocare and Osselet, and the five Silver sponsors, BioHorizons, Dentsply Tulsa Dental Specialties, Implant Direct, Osteogenics and PreXion. For complete information on these courses and on the meeting in general, visit ICOI’s web site at www.icoi.org.

In addition, ICOI will continue to hold its Table Clinic/Poster Presentation competition for delegates at all levels of experience. These will take place Thursday evening during the Welcome Reception in the Exhibition Hall.

ICOI’s auxiliary section (ADIA) will also hold a two-and-a-half-day program (in tandem with the doctors’ program), which will include its full-day certification programs for hygienists, dental assistants and practice management staff members.

Delegates should make sure to contact the host hotel, the Downtown Marriott on Michigan Avenue, as rooms are going fast.

To contact the Marriott, call (800) 266-9452, or visit www.icoi.org, and make reservations online. But do so today.

We want to see you this August in that T oddelin’ Town, Chicago.  

Tell us what you think!

Do you have general comments or criticism you would like to share? Is there a particular topic you would like to see more articles about? Let us know by e-mailing us at feedback@dental-tribune.com. If you would like to make any change to your subscription (name, address or to opt out) please send us an e-mail at database@dental-tribune.com and be sure to include which publication you are referring to. Also, please note that subscription changes can take up to six weeks to process.

Correction

Implant Tribune strives to maintain the utmost accuracy in its news and clinical reports. If you find a factual error or content that requires clarification, please report the details to Managing Editor Sierra Rendon at s.rendon@dental-tribune.com.
COMPARE OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES
SUMMER 2011
BEST BUYS
SAVE ON OVER 850 EVERYDAY ITEMS
FREE SHIPPING

Purchases from this catalog will receive FREE Shipping!*

Download the catalog now at acesurgical.com

* FREE GROUND SHIPPING ON ALL THE PRODUCTS FOUND INSIDE THIS CATALOG. Free shipping on the products in this catalog is only valid from July 1st - Sept. 31, 2011. Additional items ordered that are not in this catalog will be charged our normal UPS rates. Orders must be $400 or more to be eligible for free shipping.

ACE Surgical Supply Company, Inc. • 1034 Pearl Street, Brockton, MA 02301
ic radiographs for the placement of implants can be misleading with elongation, foreshortening, superimposition and geometrically incorrect data. A look at the implant in the periapical shows no obvious disease to an existing integrated implant. Clinically, a buccal fistula was present with exudate and slight pain. The CBCT scan (Fig. 1) reveals a more accurate view showing a buccal defect on a sagittal MPR. A surgical flap revealed a dehiscence of the coating of the implant. Removal of the foreign body resulted in an asymptomatic and healthy patient.

The evaluation of the available bone for the initial implant placement can be crucial for the long-term success of the case. If there is inadequate bone available, grafting may be a necessity. CBCT studies render the most accurate information available at a low radiation dose. The periapical shows an obvious lack of bone height, but does not show the buccal-lingual dimensions or an accurate view of the sinus morphology (Fig. 2). The MPR view of the CBCT shows all necessary measurements to perform the sinus lift and grafting with the invasion of placement of the implant fixture (Fig. 5). 3-D views show the floor of the sinus and any soft-tissue pathology (Fig. 4). Having accurate measurements in all dimensions is an advantage of CBCT scanning.

CBCT and endodontics
Endodontics is a field that is rapidly adopting the use of CBCT and for good reason. The inherent geometric deficiencies of 2-D radiographs make the CBCT scan a valuable adjunct to investigate the root morphology in both 3-D and MPR. The typical periapical will show superimposed canals in the anteriors, bicuspids and molars as well as unwanted bone densities both buccal and lingual to the affected tooth making the image quality poor. The ability to view MPR slices in cross-section, long axis and oblique directions gives the ability to follow all canals in any direction and show their relationship and measurements from other known structures. This virtual tour of the root morphology is a great benefit to the final treatment outcome (Fig. 5).

Post root-canal infection can be difficult to diagnose with the standard periapical. The endodontic fills may appear to be normal even though other clinical findings and symptoms are abnormal. The patient presents several months post-root-canal treatment with pain on palpation and pressure and avoids this side of the mouth. A periapical radiograph shows minimal pathology (Fig. 6). The distal root structure and fill appear normal. There is little indication of periapical radiolucency only a widening of the periodontal ligaments of the mesial roots.

A CBCT scan reveals a completely different picture. The coronal MPR reveals a short fill near the apex of the mesial lingual root and a large radiolucency (Figs. 7, 8) not visible on the periapical radiograph (Fig. 6).

Missed canals are difficult to see in a buccal-lingual projection of the periapical radiograph as on canal is superimposed on the other (Fig. 9). Often, as viewed in this radiograph, we see periapical pathology with an apparent normally filled canal. CBCT scans allow dentists to look for pathology in MPR planes to identify the actual problem before invasive procedures are performed on the patient. The axial view shows a lingual canal exists and is untreated. The coronal view confirms the diagnosis and treatment can be completed (Fig. 10).

Today’s endodontists, as well as general dentists, are benefiting from the diagnostic capabilities of the high-resolution CBCT scanners available over conventional 2-D periapical.

Oral surgery
Oral surgery, with its inherent invasive nature, can be better served using CBCT with MPR as well as 3-D images. The ability to perform virtual surgery is a benefit to both the doctor and the patient. Doctors have the advantage of seeing morphology and landmarks in real time and space with accurate measurements, and patients will gain a better understanding of the problems and the solutions their doctors are offering them.

Third-molar extractions can be risky based on 2-D and panoramic radiographs. These radiographs can often superimpose nerves and sinuses over root structures. Dentists using 2-D radiographs must often rely on experience to assess the risks of iatrogenic trauma. The use of CBCT with MPRs and 3-D images reduces any guessing as well as the chance for any permanent damage to the patient. With the adoption of CBCT, the judgment is based on solid
Innovative Bonding Graft Material & Fully Synthetic Bone Substitute

The MIS Bone augmentation materials include a line of fully synthetic bone grafts. BONDBONE® is a resorbable, osteoconductive bone grafting material, taking the best qualities of hemihydrate and dihydrate calcium sulfate and combining them into a unique product. It can be used on its own, or mixed with other granular bone grafting materials to form a composite that will help to prevent migration of particles and often eliminate the need for a separate barrier. 4BONE SBS is a fully synthetic bone graft composed of HA (60%) and βTCP (40%). Permeable interconnected micro and macro porosity promotes invasion of osteogenic cells by osteoconductivity, which permits the diffusion of biological fluids, leading to fast formation of bone.

MIS offers a wide range of implant designs and restorative components, along with innovative kits and accessories for the varied challenges encountered in implant dentistry. To learn more about MIS visit our website: misimplants.com or call us: 866-797-1333 (toll-free)
Introducing

PreXion3D Elite
WITH CLEARimage™ SCANNING TECHNOLOGY

NEW Up to 53% Reduction in radiation
NEW Up to 50% Increase in scanning speed
NEW Four new scanning modes, all faster and with reduced radiation
NEW Advanced Software Features
• Implant Planning Support Functions
• Fusion/Stitching Mode
• Endodontic Tracing Tool that allows for identifying root structures

Smallest focal spot at 0.15mm
Industry Leading High Quality, High Definition, Highly Diagnostic Images
Compatible with ALL implant software planning systems

Call 1-855-PREXION today to schedule a demonstration

PreXion
The World Leader in High Quality, Highly Diagnostic 3D CBCT Images.

Visit PREXION at the ICOI Summer Implant Prosthetic Symposium
Booths 403 & 405
www.PreXion.com
IT

With the use of CBCT and the MPRs that the nerve can accurately be seen traversing between the mesial buccal and mesial lingual root (Fig. 11).6,5

Other surgical advantages include the identification and the position of supernumerary or impacted teeth. The images show accurate positions and show definitive morphology that will aid in removal of the proper teeth (Fig. 12). Knowing the exact position of many of these teeth is a benefit to both the doctor and patient. It will lead to the most precise surgical path and the least invasive procedure.

Periodontics

The explanation of periodontal problems are often misunderstood by the patient. As doctors we talk about pockets, point to X-rays and propose treatment only to have patients refuse treatment because they do not understand what we are clinically describing. Using the 5-D portion of the CBCT scan can improve the understanding and acceptance of treatment plans. The images are a picture of the problem that is owned by that patient and much easier to understand by the layperson, illustrating periodontal defects and pockets allows the patient to better participate in the process (Fig. 15).

The MPRs and the 5-D projections aid in surgical planning for periodontists, allowing for accurate measurements and bone analysis prior to osseous surgery that doctors can not get using the periapicals or panoramics. Studies have shown that CBCT images are more accurate than panoramic radiographs.

For the periodontist placing implants, the ability to measure bone density and avoid important anatomy is important.6,5

Orthodontics

Orthodontists are beginning to adopt large field-of-view CBCT. Recent studies show that linear measurements of bony structures are more accurate using CBCT and have less distortion than currently used methods of measurement: lateral cephalometric, posterioranterior (PA) and submentovertebral (SMVT).5 Accurate measurements of tooth volume and tooth position can aid in accelerated treatment times and more precise treatment.

Along with tooth position, density of bone and size of arches, the orthodontist also has an accurate evaluation of the temporomandibular joint and position of the condyles. Impacted teeth are easily identified and position either buccal or lingual can be confirmed prior to movement or removal. Both MPRs and 5-D projections give the doctor a complete picture of the problems and the treatment course. With a single CBCT scan, the orthodontist can produce all of the information they need: panoramic, cephalometric, PA, SMVT, tooth size and volume, crowding evaluation in any plane, TMJ evaluation and airway analysis, all with both soft-tissue and skeletal information.6,7

Conclusion

We treat our patients in 3-D, and now, with cone-beam computed tomography, we are changing the way we diagnose from 2-D to 3-D. The addition of this technology will increase your diagnostic skills with better and more complete information at your disposal. As with any type of invasive diagnostic tool, doctors should weigh the risk to benefit in using CBCT scans.

Judicious use of CBCT and knowledge of patient’s lifetime doses should always be a consideration as well as the availability of other diagnostic tests appropriate for the problems of the patient. When adopting new technology, training is paramount. Along with training comes the responsibility of the doctor to read and diagnose information from CBCT scans.

Do not avoid CBCT from lack of knowledge; instead, take this opportunity to become a better diagnostician and radiologist. As you review radiology and pathology, your use of CBCT will aid in making the most accurate diagnosis and the most complete treatment plans.

References available upon request from the publisher.