Telescopic Implant-Supported Restorations – From Holy Grail to Ultimate Accessibility

Lecture Abstract:

Throughout the last three decades, and more so in the recent years, the field of dental implantsupported restorations is increasingly digital – and computer assisted design and manufacturing (CAD/CAM) became a reality even for the digitally-unsavvy, owing to the fact that most of the planning, design, and manufacturing take place in the dental lab, and in centralized manufacturing centers the labs outsource their work to.

However, what works well enough on teeth – is barely good enough for dental implants. Contrary to teeth, implants and implant-supported restorations lack the anatomical features enabling them to withstand abnormal occlusal forces and overcome minor restorative flaws. Lack of PDL – useful both for detecting unusual occlusal forces and for their amortization – dictates a totally different biomechanical approach: a fact many clinicians fail to understand.

Currently employed implant-supported restoration systems are based on abutments and superstructures creating multiple, random paths of insertion. As a result, many implant-restorative concepts suffer from numerous mechanical and biomechanical flaws, jeopardizing the integrity of the implant-restorative assembly and the surrounding tissues.

In the lecture, a new telescopic restorative method with zero-degree taper will be presented, based on an innovative approach that enables the creation of a single, definitive path of insertion and passive seating of the restorative framework, without cement or screws, thus compensating for the implants' position and overcoming the built-in lack of precision in current digital workflows. Moreover, while telescopic restorations per se exist for decades, recent technological advancements finally made them accessible for every dentist.