

Customized healing abutment delivery immediately after implant placement: A technique presentation

Introduction: Having overcome the matter of implants longterm preservation in the oral cavity attention has shifted to the perfection of certain aspects connected to implant therapy. Periimplant emergence profile is one of them and according to literature proper contours support esthetic outcomes and provide favorable biological response to implant-supported restorations. The aim of this presentation is to describe step-by-step the technique applied to shape the periimplant emergence profile of an anterior implant.

Case description: A 57-year-old male patient presented to the Postgraduate Clinic of Prosthodontics in National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece seeking dental rehabilitation. Clinical and radiographic examination revealed loss of tooth No. #11 and a tooth supported cantilever prosthesis supported by tooth No. #12. Due to periodontal, endodontic and restorative reasons, the tooth was characterized with poor prognosis and rehabilitation with a dental implant was proposed.

Before tooth extraction an impression was made for the fabrication of an interim Rochette bridge. Extraction took place along with GBR procedures. Six months later and after thorough examination of the CBCT an implant in the position No. #12 would be placed. Previously, the cast that was used for the fabrication of the interim prosthesis was modified so that the area replicating soft tissues of the right lateral incisor would be corresponding to that of the left lateral incisor regarding dimensions and shape.

An acrylic resin shell was prepared and the healing abutment was delivered via activation of a PEEK abutment intraorally, immediately after implant placement. Recall appointments assured the uneventful healing of periimplant tissues.

Discussion: Achievement of excellent results regarding white aesthetics of implant restorations has shifted attention towards pink aesthetics. Shaping a customized periimplant emergence profile not only enhances aesthetics of soft tissues but also yields favorable biological response to implant-supported restorations.