Solve four common posterior region challenges

Nobel Biocare offers solutions with its innovative technology

by Michael Stuart, Nobel Biocare

Restoring single molars is a common indication for most clinicians placing implants, but that does not mean it is straightforward. In this article, we look at how to overcome four challenges frequently encountered in the posterior region.

Large molar sites

In the case of immediate placement, large molar extraction sockets can make it difficult to achieve sufficient stability. The need for a large molar crown means that additional considerations have to be made regarding the emergence profile. Restorations that are significantly wider than the implant platform could, at best, leave space where food can become trapped. At worst, they could be detrimental to the marginal bone. In both eventualities, you may have patients coming back with complaints.

In a bid to avoid these issues, you could use wide-platform implants, such as those found in the NobelActive and NobelParallel Conical Connection systems. You could also further improve the emergence profile by using healing and temporary abutments designed specifically for the molar region.

Limited accessibility

The reduced space and light in the posterior region can make placing a restoration tricky. Furthermore, working at the back of the mouth means there is a high risk of the patient aspirating any small components that may come loose.

Accessibility can be improved by using an abutment with an angulated screw channel. Being able to position the screw access hole towards the lingual or mesial aspects makes it easier to reach. The appropriate tooling can also improve handling. Nobel Biocare’s unique Omnigrip Screwdriver is designed to maintain a strong grip on the screw to limit the possibility of it detaching in the patient’s mouth. This offers a little extra peace of mind, particularly when you are working in the posterior.

Excess cement

Case studies have indicated that excess cement can have a detrimental effect on periimplant tissue health. Despite the risks, a survey of 400 dentists by Wadhwni et al. found that some place up to 20 times more cement than they need.

An overload of this scale means that up to 95 percent of the cement that is placed extrudes at the restorative margin. With this margin often below the gingival margin, this can pose significant problems, particularly in the molar region, where accessibility and visibility make removal of cement especially difficult.

You can avoid this issue entirely by using a screw-retained restoration like the NobelProcera FCZ (full-contour zirconia) Implant Crown. As even the adapter is mechanically retained, the restoration is completely cement-free. Alternatively, Wadhwni et al. suggest a technique for minimizing excess cement by creating a chairside copy abutment that serves as a controlled applicator for the cement.

High occlusal forces

For restorations to withstand the high occlusal forces experienced in the molar region, they need to be strong. Those created specifically for the posterior region, like the NobelProcera FCZ Implant Crown, are designed to cope with these demanding conditions in the long term.

In addition, high forces can lead to veneer chipping. As the NobelProcera FCZ Implant Crown is a monolithic full-contour option, it overcomes this challenge too, since no veneering is required.

Four problems, one complete solution

In order to overcome all these challenges, we have brought innovation to the posterior region. Our new complete posterior solution combines wide-platform NobelActive and NobelParallel Conical Connection implants with anatomically shaped PEEK Temporary and Healing Abutments. For the definitive restoration, Nobel Biocare offers the high-strength, cement-free NobelProcera FCZ Implant Crown with the option for an angulated screw channel. In combination, these innovations are designed to make restoring molars easier.

Reference:

More to explore!

Learn more about Nobel Biocare’s complete posterior solutions at www.nobelbiocare.com.
Your laboratory can become the prosthetic provider of choice

CAD/CAM implant bars on demand with NobelProcera Scan and Design Services

by Michael Stuart, Nobel Biocare

With more than 300 million edentulous people worldwide, the opportunity for dental professionals to improve patients’ quality of life is huge. Since dental implant treatment offers a more efficient and comfortable alternative to traditional complete dentures, demand for implant bar overdentures is set to grow. Consequently, dental laboratories that can provide high-quality implant bars to support overdentures have increased business prospects. Ramping up implant bar production, however, can require a significant investment in equipment, time and staff training, which many laboratories simply cannot afford. That is where NobelProcera Scan and Design Services can help.

Send a model, receive unrivalled bars

In order to use the service, the laboratory simply prepares the case material as normal, noting the details of the case on the short accompanying form, before sending it to be scanned and designed by NobelProcera’s team of skilled technicians. From receipt of the model, the scan and design part of the process typically takes one day.

Given the extensive range of platforms covered in the Scan and Design offering, laboratories with a NobelProcera system can use the scan-only service to increase their system options while retaining control of the design. The scan is sent back to the laboratory’s NobelProcera software so that they can complete the design themselves.

Alternatively, those seeking only high-quality centralized milling can send a completed wax-up of a bar direct to production with the service.

Premium production and peace of mind

Once the technician is happy with the design, the bar is sent for milling. As NobelProcera produces implant bars only from solid blocks of surgical-grade titanium, possible weaknesses arising from soldering or laser welding are avoided. Two to three days later, the precisely manufactured bar is shipped to the laboratory, together with a material authenticity certificate and a five-year product warranty.

Investing in quality, not equipment

This flexible approach to outsourcing offers many benefits for laboratories. Primarily, it means they can offer precision-fitting bars in NobelProcera’s celebrated high quality without needing to invest in a NobelProcera CAD/CAM system or purchase and maintain expensive production technology. It also means that implant bar cases can be accepted even when the laboratory is working at full capacity or if the laboratory does not yet possess the required skill in this particular area.

A further advantage is the breadth of the NobelProcera service offering. NobelProcera’s wide range of both fixed and fixed-removable implant bar solutions caters to a variety of clinical needs and preferences, with the Scan and Design Services available for over 170 implant platforms.

Outsource means opportunity

By removing the need for investments and offering unrivalled results, NobelProcera’s Scan and Design Services give laboratories the ability to satisfy requests for high-quality implant bars that they might otherwise have been forced to pass up. In other words, it grants laboratories the flexibility to take opportunities that they cannot afford to miss.

More to explore!

Learn more about NobelProcera Scan and Design Services at www.nobelbiocare.com/nobelproceraservices.
A sound investment in professional development

“I always wanted to partner with a global organization”

by Michael Stuart, Nobel Biocare

Dr. Simonas Bankauskas, who spoke yesterday at the NEXT GEN forum for emerging leaders at the Nobel Biocare Global Symposium in New York, U.S., has gone from dental school graduate to head of the largest dental chain in Lithuania within ten years. The secret to his success? A dedication to developing his skills.

Bankauskas was intent on starting with dental implant surgery early on. “I had heard it could help people and be a good opportunity,” he recalled. “I saw an introductory implantology course being advertised by Nobel Biocare and I knew I wanted to do it. At that time it was a significant investment, it was almost a choice between learning and eating, but I took the chance.” It was a decisive moment that would mark the start of a career path Bankauskas has been following ever since.

After presenting him with the certificate for completing the course, the Nobel Biocare representative who had arranged the course introduced him to a colleague as the “future No. 1 dental surgeon in Lithuania.” For a goal-oriented young clinician like Bankauskas, this was further motivation to see how far he could go.

Learning from the best

Bankauskas began placing implants almost immediately after the course and realized that there was much more he wanted to learn. He began investing in training around the globe, visiting some of the world’s most prominent clinicians in order to gain new perspectives and find answers to the questions that arose as he made progress in the field.

With words of advice from the likes of Drs. Paulo Malo and Sascha Jovanovic still ringing in his ears, he returned to Lithuania where he began to establish his reputation.

Having quickly recouped the money spent on training, Bankauskas used funds originally put aside for a lakeside summerhouse to open a clinic of his own.

Rapid development

A new clinic, of course, added the pressures of practice management to those of clinical work. Again, Bankauskas invested in his own development to obtain the required skills, completing an executive MBA.

His thesis looked specifically at how to expand dental clinics. While his supervisor considered the plan overly ambitious, Bankauskas was soon testing his proposals in practice.

Today, Bankauskas runs seven clinics across Lithuania, with more set to open soon. Last year, he placed around 2,600 Nobel Biocare implants and treated about 400 patients according to the All-on-4 concept.

Partnering for success

While his career has evolved at a fast pace, one thing has remained a constant: his partnership with Nobel Biocare. “That first Nobel Biocare representative I met on that first training course took such good care of me, gave me the encouragement I needed,” Bankauskas explained. “I always wanted to partner with a global organization—a service provider with true quality control. I work with Nobel Biocare because, like me, they are always focused on the patient.”

More to explore!

Combining practice development skills with clinical learning is the focus of Nobel Biocare’s new Guide to Growth program. It is designed to help ambitious clinicians fulfill their potential. Find out more at www.nobelbiocare.com/grow.
Hear “Yes!” more often
Realize your ambitions and achieve your goals with the Nobel Biocare Guide to Growth program

by Frederic Love, Nobel Biocare

Over the years, Nobel Biocare has not only provided its customers with the peace of mind associated with tried and true products and services, it has also successfully helped many of them to revolutionize their practices. In the process, the company has gained great insight into what needs to be done to grow a dental practice today. Nobel Biocare has always delivered the treatment concepts, courses and lectures, hands-on training and expert mentoring necessary to advance a clinician’s professional reach.

Today, the company’s consulting sales-people also share insights—acquired over 50 years of heritage and more than 90,000 customers served—about the importance of promoting patient awareness as a practice management skill essential for increasing patient flow. Nobel Biocare has learned that increasing patient awareness of implant-based treatment increases the rate of treatment acceptance, the important first step toward ultimate patient satisfaction.

Guide to Growth
Based on the principal insights into what usually makes an implant-oriented practice successful, this professional program provides a road map to helping every member of the treatment team reach his or her professional goals.

Increased patient acceptance
One of the insights upon which Guide to Growth is based—and a key differentiating factor for rapidly growing practices—is that an increasing number of patients expect to return home on the day of surgery with provisional teeth. To that end, Nobel Biocare supports minimally invasive protocols for virtually any tooth loss case. For example, the company’s All-on-4 treatment concept has provided a pathway for dramatic growth for many practices.

In Nobel Biocare’s well-documented experience, practices that proactively reach out to patients develop more rapidly. A social media presence, a search-optimized website, patient seminars and dedicated patient education events provide just a few of the proven means toward increased patient flow.

Ever wondered why some dentists find it easier than others to gain patient acceptance for implant treatment? As it turns out, practices that can present a complete patient journey—from initial website visit, through first consultation, via treatment itself to follow-up care—find more patients agreeing to implant treatment. Other factors that have an impact on treatment acceptance include a fixed price for the full treatment, a simple visual presentation of the treatment plan, an introduction to the entire treatment team, well-coordinated staff and flexible office hours.

Practice growth is an important subject and stimulating discussion topic. In order to develop a detailed, personalized practice development plan for you and your team, start the conversation with Nobel Biocare today.

Kick-start your practice’s development with your own personal Guide to Growth package. Contact your Nobel Biocare team today.

More to explore!