



Newsletter: March 2007

Dear Dentists, Nurses and Receptionists,

David is off at the 142nd Chicago Dental Society Midwinter Meeting in Chicago. This is one of the largest dental exhibitions in the United States. We will provide a summary report in our next issue which should be interesting.

Meanwhile, whilst reviewing material for our Product Information on Precision Attachments, a copy of which is enclosed, we thought it might be interesting to publish a summary of a report recently provided to us by a patient.

The patient is male, 57yrs of age and had, without realising it, suffered from a severe periodontal infection for many years.

"The situation came to light when a piece of enamel chipped off my UR4. My regular dentist was not available so I visited another practice I knew I could rely on. After fixing the chip I was advised that further attention might be required. An OPG soon confirmed the dentist's worst fears...the situation was pretty serious as my remaining teeth were retained by no more than a few millimetres within their sockets!

Options were limited and I eventually decided, following consultation with the dentist, that the best route would be to extract the remaining teeth and fit implant retained (removable) dentures. The extraction was done in two stages, posteriors then anteriors. All went well though the lower anteriors put up much more of a fight than expected!

A set of temporary F/F dentures was produced in the lab and fitted. These took a little time to get used to but eventually everything settled down and I could eat more or less normally.

After about two months Astra implants were fitted, four in the upper two in the lower. I must admit the process was undertaken with a degree of trepidation (on my part that is!) and quite a lot of discomfort was experienced during the procedure. It was very difficult to eat normally for some time after the operation and the stitches were at times quite uncomfortable. After about two weeks things settled down, the dentures were adjusted and it was again possible to eat normally.

Three and a half months later healing caps were fitted. Though nowhere near as traumatic as having the implants fitted this procedure was quite uncomfortable and it was not easy to use the dentures though they had been adjusted to accommodate the healing caps and a soft lining applied.

Things are settling down now, thank goodness and I am looking forward to my new dentures in a few weeks time. Despite the considerable discomfort, I think I made the right decision and have received excellent treatment from my new dental team and very useful advice from the Phoenix Laboratory."

Looks like we have another satisfied patient, we hope to see some pictures of the finished result soon!

Best Wishes, *The Phoenix Team*

