



Implants and Attachment Workshop

Handout

Implant Overdenture Procedures

- Start with wax bites, denture set up and treatment plan
- Mount study models – evaluate space required
- Begin temporary overdenture fabrication, implant stent and place implants. Wait the required integration time and then begin final overdenture fabrication

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If Implants have been placed, then:

- Begin overdenture fabrication over healing caps making sure that the denture fits passively over the healing caps
- Insert overdenture, make adjustments-allow to settle in-denture must fit comfortably before we can place attachment abutments
- Measure cuff height with a perio probe from the top of the implant to the top surface of the tissue and record this measurement
- Select a rigid or resilient Overdenture attachment – obtain reference manuals from companies
- Call attachment company and give them the make, diameter and cuff height of the implant
- Inert attachment abutments and torque down to the required force
- Place the male attachment on the abutment and relieve the intaglio surface to insure a passive fit on tissue with no abutment impingement
- Prepare lingual weep holes and quick cure male or female attachments in place. Use block out material and follow manufacturers instructions

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How Do I Select Attachments?

1. What type of case is this? Partial, Overdenture, Segmented Fixed Bridge?
2. What rigid and non-rigid (resilient attachments) are available?
3. What is your philosophy of loading? Rigid attachments load teeth, roots and implants by redistributing occlusal forces to those areas. Resilient attachments unload teeth, roots and implants by redistributing occlusal forces to soft tissue areas as the supportive areas of the palate and the mandible.
4. What is the condition of the remaining ridge? Good, adequate bone support-use rigid attachments, Fair to poor bone levels-use rigid or resilient attachments, Highly resorbed- use rigid or resilient attachments. Attachment selection is dependent on other factors as the condition and number of remaining teeth or implants.
5. What is opposing the prosthesis?
Complete Denture- use rigid attachments.
Clasped Partial- use rigid or resilient attachments.
Natural Dentition or Fixed Bridgework- use rigid or resilient attachments. Attachment selection is dependent on other factors as condition and number of remaining teeth or implants as well as condition of the remaining ridge.
- 6 What is the condition of the remaining periodontal support?
Stable- use rigid attachments
Class 1, 2 mobility- use rigid attachments. Multiple splinting of two or more abutments is always recommended.

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7 How much interocclusal/interarch space is available?- need at least 3-5mm or

more depending on the thickness of the overdenture. Check attachment heights on mounted study models using a putty matrix on overdenture wax-up.

6. Where are the attachments located? Are they directly over the ridge?

Do they interfere with the buccal or lingual denture flanges causing esthetic

concerns? Consider small-angulated attachment abutments or make

modifications if possible. Always use a surgical stent.

There are many companies that manufacture or distribute rigid and non-rigid attachments and attachment abutments. This information is readily available on the Internet. Once you decide where and how the occlusal forces are to be redirected, there are many available choices and attachment sizes. Your laboratory can help you to make the decision based on your treatment planning objectives.

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