Implant Q&A: An Interview with Dr. Paresh Patel

Interviews of Paresh B. Patel, DDS, MS, FRCD(C) by Winnipeg Editor Steve Kochman

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Prosthodontist Dr. Paresh Patel discusses why he prefers a digital workflow for implant restorations, why he prefers a cemented approach to implant prosthetics, why he prefers a two-piece implant, and why he prefers to be a Straumann and Apexdent Keynote Speaker.

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Dr. Paresh Patel: Absolutely. Thanks for having me.

SK: You graduated from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in prosthodontics in 1989. What was the state of implant dentistry back then?

PP: Oh, crude stuff. This is an implant story, every from it. That was about as clear as mud back then. We had, you know, the Brånemark system, and we had a few other types of the right time, we might've been able to used a few other implants, but we were lucky. There was no implant dentistry back then, really.

SK: There were no prosthetic requirement to become a given specialty back then?

PP: No, even in the renowned prosthodontic program at Chapel Hill, we weren't exposed to osseointegration. Maybe, I'm sure, in some of the renowned programs in prosthodontics at advanced training.

SK: You're a well-known and well-published prosthodontist. Tell us about your most prominent or particularly interesting publication.

PP: From 1996 to about 2008, I worked on a lot of research and publication on a couple of projects rather. I was under the impression that the Brånemark system was the only implant system that was worth studying. But after about 10 years of getting under the microscope, I found that, that, that,