# **Replacement of a fractured central incisor**

with post-extractive BLX implant positioning and immediate prosthesis



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# INTRODUCTION

A 46-year-old suffered a trauma to her left upper central incisor while swimming. The tooth was fractured under the crestal bone and it was no longer possible to restore it (**Fig. 1 and 2**).

As the tooth had an aesthetic impact, our goal was to investigate possibility of placing an immediate post-extraction implant with an immediate prosthesis to ensure, in every phase of the treatment, the presence of a fixed and aesthetically-satisfactory rehabilitation.

**Fig. 1** Fracture line is clearly visible in the x-ray.





Fig. 2 The fractured 21 tooth due to trauma.

# **DIGITAL PLANNING**

To this end, a CBCT exam was requested to evaluate the bone anatomy around the teeth 21. The Dicom files were imported in coDiagnostiX planning software (Fig. 3); at the same time, an optical impression was taken with the DentalWings intraoral scanner and the Stl file was also imported in coDiagnostiX (Fig. 4). These files were aligned to visualize and analyze the case (Fig. 5).

The data showed (Fig. 6) significantly reduced bone volume at the apical side of the tooth, making the necessary implant stability very difficult to achieve. In addition, there was a thin bone plate at the vestibular side of the tooth.

For this specific case, the use of a BLX implant was perfectly indicated, as it is possible to obtain a high level of primary stability with this type of implant, even in areas with reduced bone availability.

After accurate digital planning of the implant position from both the surgical and the prosthetic point of view (Fig. 7), a surgical stent was created (Fig. 8) for computer-guided implant positioning, outlining a partially-driven implant placement. The stent was then printed along with a



Fig.3 CBCT exam done immediately after the trauma.



Fig.5 Matching of the data in CoDiagnostiX planning software.



**Fig.4** Optical impression of the upper arch taken with Dental Wings<sup>®</sup> intraoral scanner.



Fig. 6 Digital analysis of the case and choice of the correct implant position.



**Fig.7** Planning of the BLX implant placement in 21 post-extractive site.



Fig.8 Design of the surgical stent for the computerguided implant installation.





Fig. 9 The stent and the resin model after the printing process.

**Fig. 10** The temporary abutment is modifyied in line with the crown shape.



Fig. 11 Provisional crown to be connected to the abutment after the implant placement.

resin model simulating the clinical situation after extraction and implant installation (Fig. 9). Using this approach, the dental technician was able to produce a very precise provisional resin crown on tooth 21, to be finally connected to the temporary abutment after the placement of the implant (Fig. 10 and 11).

# SURGICAL PHASE

During the surgical phase, the first step was to remove the fractured crown. As shown (Fig. 12), the next challenge was the extraction of the root: it is crucial not to damage the thin vestibular wall of the socket if the implant is to be immediately placed. For this reason, a special device (Exomed, Medesy, Italy) was used to pull out a screw previously placed into the root (Fig. 13). By slowly turning the device wheel connected to the screw (Fig. 14), the root was gently extracted (Fig. 15).

At this point, the guide was placed in the correct position (Fig. 16) and the drilling procedure was





Fig. 12 The remaining root after the extraction of the dental crown.

**Fig. 13** Positioning of the dedicated screw for the extraction.

performed, driven by the guide, until the bur was at a diameter of 2.8mm (Fig. 17). The BLX implant was then placed without a strictly guided protocol, instead using only the stent as a reference point (Fig. 18). The remaining space between the implant and the vestibular bone wall was finally filled with bone substitute material.



Fig. 14 The special device at work for the pulling out of the root.



Fig. 15 After the slow traction, the root is gently extracted.



Fig. 16 The tooth-supported surgical stent is seated with great precision.



Fig. 17 The drilling procedure: the impland bed is prepared till the bur diameter 2.8.



Fig. 18 The BLX implant is placed not strictly driven by the stent.



Fig. 19 Connection of the provisional crown to the abutment.



**Fig. 20** Clinical situation at the end of the procedure.

# PROSTHETIC PROTOCOL AND PROVISIONALISATION

The resulting implant stability was very high (greater than 50 nw/cm), a pre-requisite for the placement of a temporary crown.

After screwing in the temporary abutment, the temporary crown was then connected to it; a small piece of dental dam kept the field dry in order to ensure optimal adhesive conditions (Fig. 19).

The provisional crown was screwed on with a torque of 20 nw/cm; the screw hole was protected with Teflon and closed with temporary filling material. The crown was not in contact with the opposite jaw, either in centric occlusion or during disclusion movements.

# OUTCOME

The final outcome, at the end of the procedure, was absolutely aesthetically-pleasing and the patient was more than happy to have obtained such a satisfactory result with such a comfortable approach (Fig. 20). The post-operative X-ray confirmed the success of the procedure (Fig. 21).

What was truly impressive was the way in which the soft tissue surrounding the implant was healthy just one week after placement (Fig. 22).



**Fig. 21** X-ray image at the end of the procedure.





**Fig.22** Clinical situation after 7 days.

**Fig.23** Clinical situation after 90 days.

# CONCLUSION

The photo shooted after 90 days (Fig. 23) demonstrates the high quality of the restoration whilst the corresponding x-ray taken at the same time (Fig. 24) shows the perfect integration of the implant, ready for the final prosthesis. The pleasent smile of the patient (Fig. 25) has been guaranteed during all the phases of the treatment till the complete implant healing.

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Fig. 24 X-ray image after 90 days.

Fig. 25 The smile of the patient after the implant integration.

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