

A technique for the manipulation of prosthetic screws intraorally

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The insertion of an implant-supported prosthesis is easier when the prosthesis is cement-retained.^{1,2} This is due to the larger size and, consequently, easier manipulation of the prosthetic implant components needed to complete a cement-retained restoration (abutment and abutment screw), compared to the size of the prosthetic screws used in screw-retained restorations. Hand manipulation of the prosthetic screws in screw-retained restorations can be difficult intraorally, especially in posterior areas, because of their small head size. Screws



Fig. 1. Screw adhered to screwdriver tip, being carried intraorally to screw-access opening of prosthesis.

are not easily held by the screwdriver tip. A simple technique to manage prosthetic screws intraorally during the insertion of screw-retained prostheses is described. The sticky consistency of the gel/petroleum jelly allows easier clinical manipulation of the prosthetic screw with the screwdriver.

PROCEDURE

1. Paint the prosthetic screw (Nobel Biocare AB, Goteborg, Sweden) with chlorhexidine gel (Periokin Gel; Kin Laboratories SA, Barcelona, Spain) or petroleum jelly.
2. Adhere the screw to the screwdriver tip with the gel or jelly.
3. Place the screw in the desired screw-access opening (Fig. 1).

REFERENCES

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