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## "A new chapter in prosthodontics - Digital Impressions"

### Arpit Sikri

Bhojia Dental College & HospitalIndia

The intraoral digital impression technique has been used in prosthodontics to aid the CAD/CAM process. As a relatively new technique, the deficits in repeatability of the intraoral digital impression need to be solved, but dental products fabricated with intraoral digital impressions have presented accuracy on par with conventional impressions. Although conventional impression materials like polyvinyl siloxane and polyether are well developed and present great accuracy in many prostheses, the intraoral digital impression technique has a distinct superiority in work efficiency and saving of materials. Digital impression technology can be applied to most areas in dentistry where we now use conventional impression material.

With the techniques of computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) being applied in the field of prosthodontics, a concept of intraoral digital impressions was put forward in the early 1980s. It has drawn comprehensive attention from dentists and has been used for dental prosthesis fabrication in a number of cases. This new digital impression technique is expected to bring about absolute digitization to the mode of prosthodontics. A few published articles have indicated that dental prostheses fabricated from intraoral digital impressions have exhibited remarkable advantages over those from conventional impressions in several respects. The present lecture discusses intraoral digital impression techniques in terms of the various aspects: (1) categories and principles of intraoral digital impression devices currently available; (2) operating characteristics of the devices; and

(3) comparison of the manipulation, accuracy, and repeatability between intraoral digital impression and conventional impression. The further improvement of the intraoral digital impression technique will lead to its wide use in dentistry. Predicting the future is difficult, but trends and developments can guide one to the correct answer. Technology is advancing exponentially, and there are many exciting new technologies on the horizon. The reducing cost of processing power will ensure that these developments will continue as exemplified by the recent introduction of a new range of digital intraoral scanners.

#### **Biography**

Dr. Arpit Sikri [BDS (Gold Medallist), MDS (Prosthodontics), PGDHM, DWCOI] is currently working as Associate Professor & Post Graduate Guide in the Department of Prosthodontics, Bhojia Dental College & Hospital, Baddi, Himachal Pradesh, India. He had earlier worked as Senior Resident in the most prestigious dental institute of the country i.e. Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences, New Delhi, India. He had also worked as Senior Lecturer in Santosh Dental College, Santosh Deemed to be University, Ghaziabad (Delhi NCR) & Senior Lecturer in Sudha Rustagi College of Dental Sciences & Research, Faridabad, Haryana, India.

arpitsikri@gmail.com