Happy Summer,

We hope you are enjoying the tail end of what has been a beautiful summer! With the State Fair fast approaching, we are reminded to get out and enjoy this great weather whenever we can.

Many of you were able to participate in our Skype session with Sam Quinones, the author of Dreamland: The True Tale of America’s Opiate Epidemic, which helped us understand our current opioid epidemic beyond what we have seen in the media. I believe we are all reassessing our opioid prescribing habits. Our increasing understanding of how vulnerable the adolescent population is to future opioid misuse if exposed to opioids before finishing high school, is also giving us pause when considering prescribing opioids to youngsters.

To provide another perspective on the opioid crisis, we will host an evening presentation of a mother whose 18-year-old Eagle Scout son disappeared into drug addiction and homelessness. Martha Wegner wrote Dear David: Dealing with My Son’s Addiction One Day at a Time to help her cope with the heartache of addiction, and to share how it affected her family. Mark your calendar for Thursday, November 30 at 7PM at the Eagan Community Center.

As always, thank you for involving us in the care of your patients. We really appreciate it, and we welcome hearing from you for any reason.

Best Regards,

Brent Florine, DDS

Management of Dry mouth: Assessment of Oral Symptoms After Use of a Polysaccharide-based Oral Rinse

Epstein JB, Villines DC, et al.

Salivary dysfunction is associated with a range of oral/dental issues, and management of oral symptoms may improve oral function and overall quality of life. The purpose of this pilot study was to evaluate oral symptoms and function in a xerostomic population after use of a proprietary topical for dry mouth, Moisyn rinse is a polysaccharide-based product. A pre- and post-test survey was completed by 57 patients with xerostomia. Patients rated their common oral symptoms, based on the Vanderbilt Head and Neck Symptom Survey, before and after 1-week use of Moisyn rinse and spray. Saliva production under resting and chewing stimulation was also assessed.

Most patients reported relief from dry mouth symptoms and thick saliva (81.7% and 76.0%, respectively) for more than 30 minutes after product use. Statistically significant reductions were found in 15 of 33 oral symptoms. Symptom improvement ranged from 10.7% to 28.4% for thick saliva, 8.4% to 30.6% for pain, 5.5% to 30.4% for dry mouth, and 12% to 21.3% for taste/diet change. Whole unstimulated/resting saliva improved by 100%, and whole stimulated saliva improved by 23.8%. These findings suggest that the product has utility in symptom control in patients with xerostomia and may lead to an increase in saliva production.

Opioid, NSAID, and OTC Analgesic Medications for Dental Procedures: PEARL Network Findings

Wong YJ, Keenan J, et al.
Compend Contin Educ Dent. 2016 Nov/Dec;37(10):710-718

Dental treatment is often categorized as a moderately or severely painful experience; however, no clinical data reported by the patient and dentist currently exists to support this degree of pain. This has contributed possibly continued on back page

Dr. Brent Florine received his undergrad degree from the University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts and attended the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry. He received postgraduate dental and oral and maxillofacial surgery training at Louisiana State University and Charity Hospital in New Orleans, and the University of Minnesota Hospitals and Clinics. He is certified as a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and has practiced oral surgery in Eagan since 1987.
Immediate Versus Delayed Loading of Implant for Replacement of Missing Mandibular First Molar: A Randomized Prospective Six Years Clinical Study

Chidagam P., Gande V., et al.
J Clin Diagn Res. 2017 Apr;11(4)

Emergence of dental implants made the replacement of missing tooth easy. During the early days of introduction, implants were loaded three to six months after implant insertion, but understanding of healing cascade and improved production technology has changed the phase of restoration from delayed to immediate loading. The purpose of this study was to evaluate and compare the clinical outcome of immediate and delayed loaded implant supported prosthesis for missing mandibular first molar. The objectives were bleeding on probing, probing depth, implant mobility, marginal bone level and peri-implant radiolucency were evaluated during follow up period. Twenty patients were included in this study that were in the need of fixed implant supported prosthesis for missing mandibular first molar. Single tooth implant with immediate loading done within two days of implant insertion in one group and another group were loaded after three months of implant insertion. These groups were evaluated clinically and radiographically over a period of 72 months after loading using appropriate statistical analysis.

The study consisted of 14 male and six female patients with the age range of 19 to 31 years. There was no bleeding on probing and probing depth remained well within the normal range even after 72 months of loading among both the groups. Minimal marginal bone loss was observed with no mobility; peri-implant radiolucency supported prosthesis for missing mandibular first molar with immediate loading can be used as a successful treatment modality. It reduces treatment time, provides early function and prevents undue migration of adjacent tooth. Immediate loading showed similar clinical and radiographic results as those of delayed loading, indicating it as an equally efficient technique for implant supported prosthesis.