

Lecture 1. Controversies in Endodontics

Despite the advent of modern technology in current endodontic practice, the speciality is still in embroiled in controversies both clinical and theoretical. Whilst these controversies exist and endodontists and general practitioners are unable to agree on the many parameters that would lead to successful clinical outcomes, endodontics is seen as a second rate treatment modality.

How can we compare implants and endodontics in terms of success? Implants replace teeth, whilst endodontics save teeth. Implant success is measured in terms of survival. Endodontic success is measured in term of elimination of disease. On this basis, the two measures of success are not comparable. The lecture will review the question of survival of implant retained restorations and crowned endodontically treated teeth in an effort to “level the playing field”.

For over 90 years researchers and clinicians have debated the question of the correct endpoint for canal preparation and filling. Considerable disagreement still exists. The literature on this issue will be reviewed and the clinical facts presented so that all clinicians can reach a consensus on this important treatment issue.

Single visit versus multiple visit treatments divide the speciality of endodontics. 99% of the cases shown in this full day presentation have been completed in a single visit. The literature on Calcium Hydroxide efficacy is dubious. Single visit outcomes are as successful as multiple. The whole question will be explored and a longstanding “myth” will be turned on its head.

One of the least emphasized and poorly taught aspects of clinical practice is the role of irrigation. How can we enhance irrigation effectiveness, increase debris removal ability and eliminate bacteria. This section will review this important aspect of endodontic procedure and introduce some of the new products now available to maximize irrigation potential.

Lecture 2. Latest technology in the Preparation and Filling of the Root Canal System

From access cavity preparation to filling of the root canal system, new technology has revolutionized endodontic procedure. There are so many products available today but how do you choose the best? Maximizing the use of the microscope, ultrasonics, new glide path files, progressive taper rotary and hand files, 3 dimensional filling techniques has made endodontics easier than at any time in the past. This lecture will look at everything new that is available today and show participants a consistently simple technique to avoid mishaps and common mistakes in the preparation and filling of the root canal system.