

Dr. Singh offers training with CAMLOG

An interview with Dr. Pankaj Singh who will teach a CAMLOG training course in New York in May

By Sierra Rendon
Managing Editor

Please tell us about your career background.

After graduating from NYU's School of Dentistry, I completed my advanced Dental, Implant and Oral-Surgery training at Brookdale Hospital and Medical Center and I.V. Anesthesia training at Montifiore Hospital and Medical Center. In 1995, I joined my Manhattan practice which routinely referred patients to specialists.

We were able to treat a majority of patients in-house. As a result, patients reported overwhelming satisfaction with their treatment, mainly because there was consistency and timely execution. This reflected significantly on the practice's productivity.

In addition to practicing and teaching at NYU, I've been researching new and effective modalities for the management and treatment of sleep apnea and severe jaw atrophy. I am currently seeking patents on several dental sleep apnea and implant appliances that have proven to help patients.

Last year we built a fully equipped state-of-art facility in Garden City, Long Island, that includes a certified operating room with the aim of delivering comprehensive patient care and hands-on implant training for the novice and experienced dentist.

When did you start providing implants to your patients and why?

Upon graduation in 1992, I immediately began placing implants at Brookdale Hospital under tutelage of Dr. A Norman Cranin. As Chief Resident of the program, I had tremendous hands-on experience in every aspect of advanced Dental and Oral Rehabilitation. Implant education was an integral component of the curriculum at Brookdale.

What advances have you seen in implant dentistry and how has this affected your practice and your teaching efforts?

We've certainly come a long way from the development of the first commercial titanium screw implants in the 1980s to a plethora of new implant products and systems which have been fueled by rising consumer demand. Companies are investing millions in implant technology because aging baby boomers with periodontal disease and other dental problems don't want to bother with clumsy and uncomfortable bridge-

More information

What: Basic CAMLOG Implant Course, A Comprehensive 2-day Course for the Dentist New to Implant Placement with instructor Pankaj Singh

When: May 15-16*; July 24-25; Sept. 18-19; and Nov. 6-7

Where: Henry Schein Dental Center, Woodbury, NY Phone: (516) 364-5314 (*May location: The Garden City Hotel, Long Island, NY Phone: (516) 747-5000)

Information: Contact Jessica Zimmerman at (518) 312-5161. The course is limited due to its interactive and live surgery setting. Early registration is highly recommended.



work.

Traditional implant therapy used to be a two-stage procedure. The implant was placed and allowed to integrate, and then a second-stage surgery was done to "uncover" the implant with the placement of a transmucosal abutment. Today implants are being done as a single-stage surgery, eliminating the need for a second surgery. This has made it easier on the patient and saves time for the treating doctor. Now more than ever we are placing either a temporary or a final restoration on the implant at the time of implant placement surgery.

Today 3-D CAT Scans have made implant placement predictable and safer by providing templates to guide implant placement.

In my practices we have integrated advanced diagnostics into our treatment delivery such as an in-office CBVT, dental magnification and several different types of dental lasers and piezoelectric surgical instruments.

How is your work divided up between practicing and lecturing?

I enjoy the practice of dentistry immensely. At this point in my career, I feel that I have struck a nice balance between my clinical practice, research, teaching, writing, and now also co-authoring the Atlas of Oral Implantology. I have been able to achieve this balance because I trained and empowered my associates to perform all phases of dentistry ethically and with great confidence. That's the real beauty of being a general dentist.

Recently I have been lecturing to both medical and dental professionals on sleep dentistry, implants and raising awareness about the interlink between dental disease and systemic health and dental treatment modalities that have a positive impact on the patients overall health.

What is the nature of your work with CAMLOG/Henry Schein?

The Camlog Implant System sets new standards in oral implantology in terms of stability and handling. Its

simplicity in the surgical protocol and the restorative options and "tube-in-tube" design have made Camlog one of the top implant companies in Europe and worldwide. Henry Schein is now making it widely available in the United States. The CAMLOG System makes surgical placement simple and safe, and case management is predictable. How wonderful is that?

My team and I are very excited and honored about being the U.S. Northeast training center for the Camlog Implant System and making implants a reality for dentists because it is the ideal and future of teeth replacement. We will be delivering courses through our company CMS (Collaborative Management Solutions, LLC). The courses are a combination of in-depth lecture, live surgery and hands-on prosthetic workshops. Our goal is to provide clinical education and support, to the novice thru advanced implantologist, on implant therapy and advances in the implant field. What's unique about our program is that being a general dentist I address the underlying concerns and realities that other general practitioners often feel anxious about. Our courses begin this May.

Implants belong in the restorative dentist's practice. The complex cases should and will always be referred to the dentist with the appropriate amount of clinical and didactic experience to address the difficulties of a case. Patients needing implants will want them performed, if possible, by their family dentist as part of their

ongoing oral health care. We will train these dentists to take on that challenge with confidence and feel great about providing comprehensive care that their patients need and want.

What professional education do you recommend a general dentist to take so he/she is prepared and confident to provide implant dentistry?

I want to emphasize that proper training and planning is required to be successful. There are company-sponsored programs that emphasize a single-implant system as well as university-based programs. All are important educational resources for the dentist who wants to become informed about implant placement and restoration, as well as understand the clinical situations and physiologic reasons that allow for immediate or delayed loading of implants. The implant courses should be a combination of in-depth lecture, live surgeries with hands-on workshops.

When selecting courses the key is to carefully review the course content in relation to one's experience level and most importantly find out if the program provides after-training support to ensure your success. We provide support to all our participants by phone, e-mail, and study clubs.

What do you see as the main new development in restorative and surgical implant dentistry for the next few years?

I believe the next wave in Implant Dentistry will be focused on developing materials and techniques that accelerate healing of the implant site post-surgery and enhancing the physiologic process that we call osseointegration.

In the restorative phase, I would like to see more biologically mimicking materials that would make the final restoration look and function just like what it is replacing. I would like to see those materials be successful in achieving that goal predictably and repeatedly with significant ease of handling and production of the restoration.

What is your passion besides dentistry?

Cars! I equate dentistry to cars ... the need for speed with precision handling and aesthetic appeal!

IT About the doctor

Dr. Pankaj Singh is the founder of Arch Dental Associates with offices in Manhattan's West Village and Le Visage Cosmetic and Implant Dentistry in Garden City, Long Island. A graduate of New York University's School of Dentistry, he has received his advanced training in dental implants at Brookdale Hospital and NYU. Dr. Singh has been in private practice for more than

15 years, specializing in implant, cosmetic, restorative and laser dentistry. He was the first dentist to introduce the use of lasers and one-visit dentistry using the CEREC technology to the downtown Manhattan area. His use of 3-D imaging in planning dental implant procedures and restorations is regarded as a unique and fresh approach to traditional techniques.