

Product Focus:

The LOCATOR Abutment Delivery Retaining Sleeve:

Simple, Efficient, Time Saving Risk Reducer

There has been an exponential growth in the number of patients treated with implant-retained overdentures and implant-retained removable partial dentures over the past few years. The systemic health and psychologic benefits offered to edentulous people through this treatment option has caused the implant-retained overdenture to quickly become the ideal standard of care for many patients.¹ In light of this outstanding treatment option, numerous prosthetic components have been introduced to provide greater predictability, simplification, and affordability.² One excellent example of these products is the **LOCATOR Implant Overdenture Abutment** (Zest Anchors LLC). The true resiliency and design of this attachment make the fabrication, delivery, and long-term success of implant-retained removable prosthetics a success for both the patient and the practitioner.

The introduction of the **LOCATOR Abutment Retaining Sleeve** (Zest Anchors LLC), a simple but noteworthy component, has improved on the already excellent **LOCATOR system** (Zest Anchors LLC). This sleek piece of nylon is designed to fit over the end of the existing **LOCATOR Core Tool** (Zest Anchors LLC) and provide a secure method of carrying the abutment to the mouth with no risk of dropping it in the process. The addition of this new component adds another level of simplification and stress reduction to the fabrication and delivery of implant-retained overdentures and partial dentures.³

The **LOCATOR Core Tool** (Figure 1) consists of 3 separate components: a male removal tool for removal of the

various nylon retentive components from the metal denture housing; a male seating tool for insertion of retentive nylon components into the metal housing; and the gold-plated **LOCATOR Abutment Driver** (Zest Anchors LLC) for placement of the **LOCATOR Abutment** into the Implant. The gold-plated abutment driver section is designed to engage the inside diameter of the **LOCATOR Abutment** (Figure 2) regardless of the implant system used. When the introduced **LOCATOR Abutment Retaining Sleeve** is placed on the end of the gold-plated abutment driver (Fig-

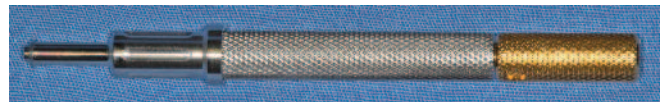


Figure 1—LOCATOR Abutment Core Tool. Note the gold-plated end (right side) with abutment insertion instrument inside. The left side is the nylon male removal tool and the center portion is for placement of retentive male inserts into the metal housing.

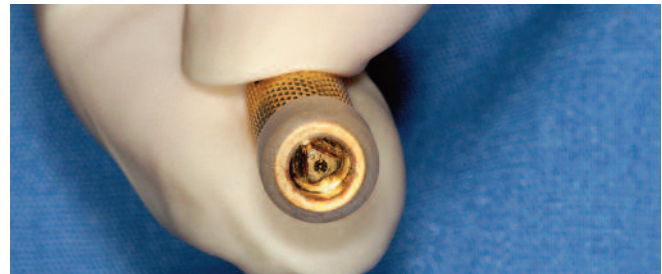


Figure 2—Clear nylon retaining sleeve in place on the end of the insertion instrument.

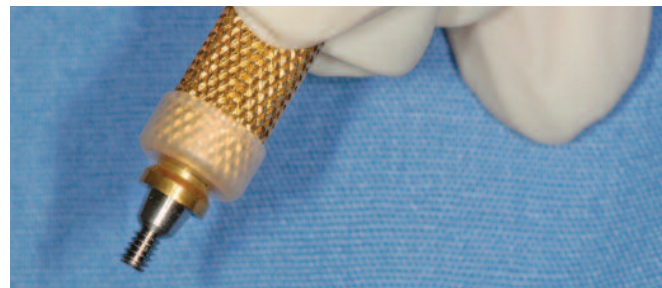


Figure 3—LOCATOR Abutment “snapped” into the retaining sleeve and securely carried to the patient’s mouth.



Robert C. Vogel, DDS
Private Practice
Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Phone: 561.775.1898
E-mail: centricrelation@pol.net



Figure 4—Delivery of the LOCATOR Implant Abutment to the mouth and finger-tightened before use of a torque control device for final placement.

ure 2), the **LOCATOR Implant Abutment** can be placed on the driver and retained in place (Figure 3) for delivery to the patients' mouth with the security of the abutment not being dropped. The **LOCATOR Abutment** can be placed into the implant finger tightly (Figure 4) before final application of torque with a torque control device.

The instrument is easily removed from the abutment with light pressure, and the **Retaining Sleeve** as well as the entire **Core tool** can be heat or chemically sterilized.

Conclusion

Implant retained overdentures have quickly become the standard of care to improve the quality of life for edentulous patients. The introduction of the **LOCATOR Implant Abutment** has simplified the ability to provide increased precision and predictability in clinical practice. The addition of the **Abutment Delivery Retaining Sleeve** represents a refinement to this system providing greater security and reduced chairtime resulting in increased affordability of care to our patients.

References

1. Feine JS, Carlsson GE. *Implant Overdentures: The Standard of Care for Edentulous Patients*. Hanover Park, IL: Quintessence Publishing; 2003.
2. Vogel RC. Implant overdentures: current concepts and techniques. *Compend Cont Educ Dent*. 2008;29:270-277.
3. Vogel RC. Implant retained removable partial dentures. *Functional Esthetics & Restorative Dentistry*. 2008;2:38-42.