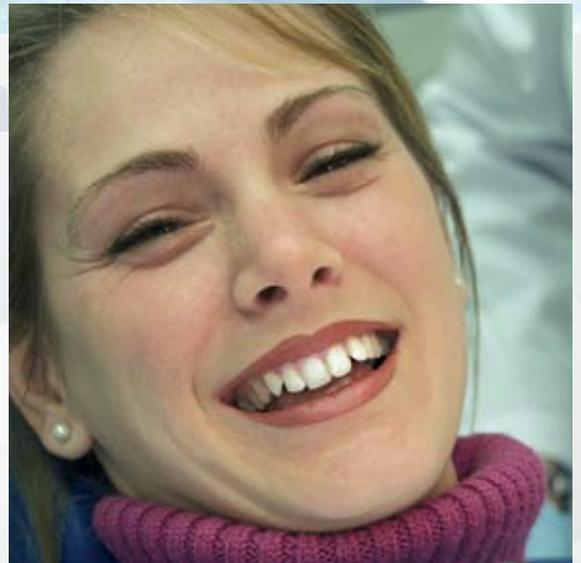
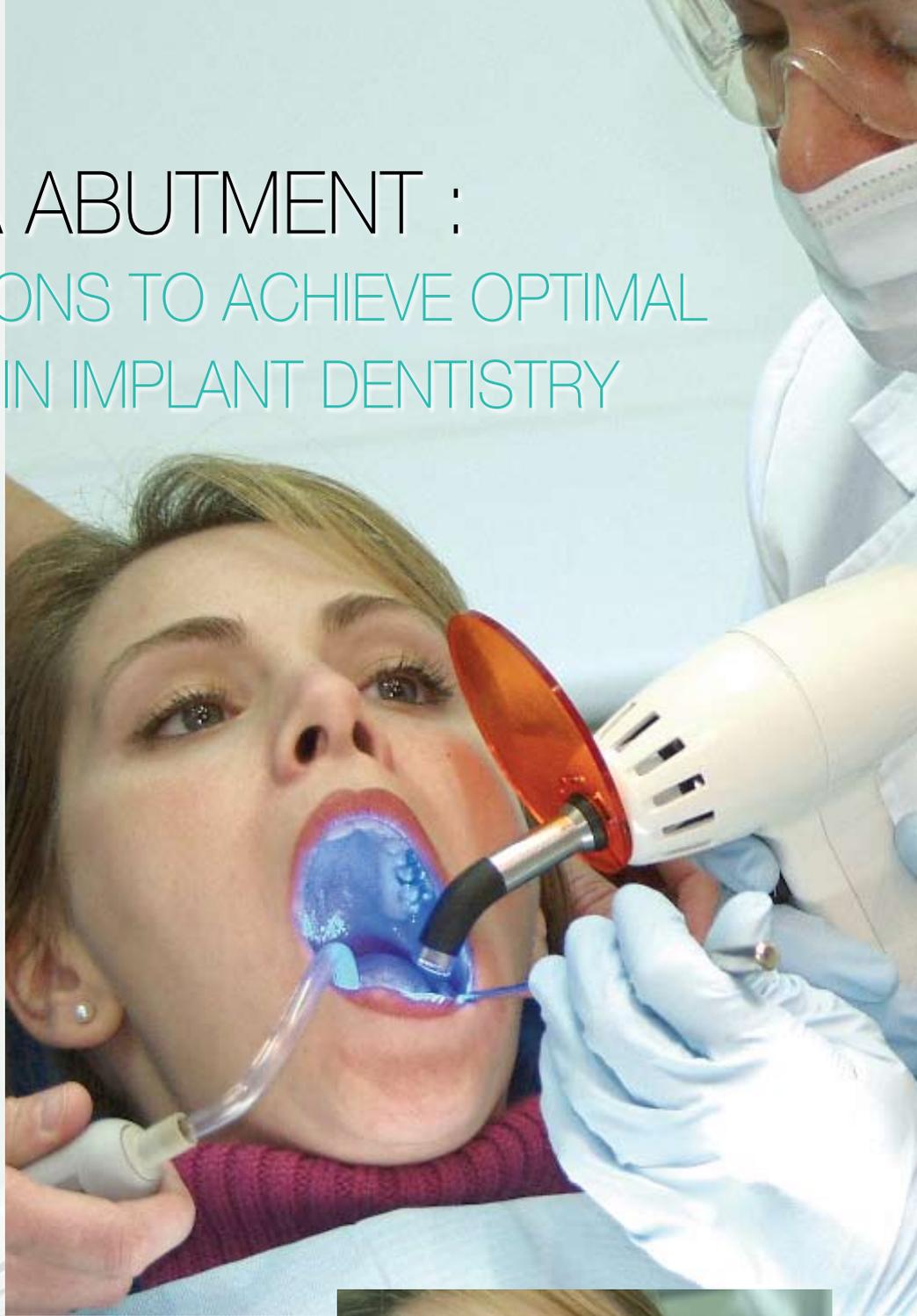


PROCERA ABUTMENT : NEW SOLUTIONS TO ACHIEVE OPTIMAL AESTHETICS IN IMPLANT DENTISTRY

Dental implantology has become a firmly established discipline within dentistry

Dental implants can also be used, with predictable results, in rehabilitating dento-facial esthetics



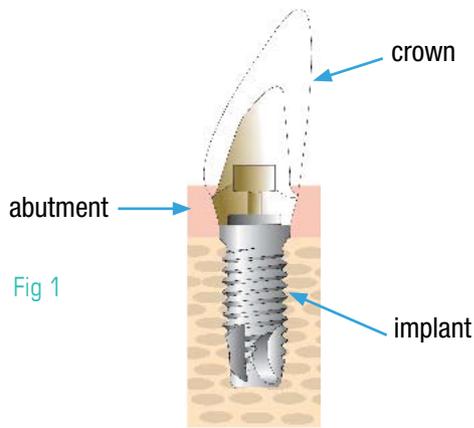


Fig 1

Fig 2
Maxillary left lateral incisor presents an implant crown cemented on a metallic abutment. Because of the thinness of the gum, a blue shimmer is being visible



Fig 6 : The grayish discoloration has completely disappeared with the ceramic abutment.

In the esthetically relevant anterior region, the results of implant prosthodontics are evaluated more critically because these restorations are directly perceived by patients and their environment. In the case of anterior single tooth replacement, new implant components (abutments = screwed onto the implant and who receive the final crown (Fig 1) have thus been created.

Recently, customized abutments have been developed in order to solve each patient's specific problems and to offer more esthetic outcomes. The latest development in this kind of abutment has been the Procera® abutment, designed for each patient by a computerized technology. The Procera® abutments, distributed by a Swedish firm (Nobel Biocare), are available in titanium, or in ceramic (Alumina or Zircona).

Metal color showing through is a limitation attributed to all metallic (titanium) abutments, especially when the gingival margin is thin (Fig 2) and in patients with gummy smiles. In this situation highly esthetic prosthetic restoration will be difficult, if not impossible, using conventional titanium abutments.

The interest of using a ceramic abutment is to avoid the grayish discoloration of the gum (Fig 5,6). The ceramic abutment used in conjunction with an all-ceramic crown helps produce a highly esthetic result. The optical properties associated with a color that is close to that of natural teeth ensures high esthetic performance.

Because of its versatility, the Procera® abutment system offers new potential for the successful restoration of a natural smile.

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