Achieving optimal, predictable results with implant restorations may be one of the most challenging goals in implant dentistry. This program will present several challenging clinical scenarios involving missing teeth, as well as the surrounding hard and soft tissues in the aesthetic zone. Preoperative planning will be emphasized as a means of avoiding or minimizing surgical and/or restorative complications. Critical diagnostic steps will be discussed, including fabrication of surgical guides to optimize implant placement. The literature is replete with clinical guidelines relative to provisional restorations being critical in obtaining optimal results; provisional restorations are also important regarding abutment selection and design features, as well as establishing contours of the definitive restorations. Clinical situations will be illustrated where implant placement and/or tissue contours were not ideal and additional surgical interventions and prosthodontic modifications were needed to resolve the complications.

After completion of the program, participants should be able to:

- Identify patients with potential clinical challenges regarding implant-supported restorations in the anterior aesthetic zone.
- Understand established clinical guidelines that manage complex treatment in the aesthetic zone.
- Understand how surgical procedures may improve treatment results in the aesthetic zone.
- Have a working knowledge of developing optimal soft-tissue contours with fabrication of custom provisional restorations.
- Identify the role provisional restorations play in developing optimal design features for definitive restorations.
- Make appropriate decisions regarding abutment and material selections in the aesthetic zone.

Vahik Paul Meserkhani, DDS

Dr. Meserkhani has lectured extensively on the subject of prosthodontics and implant dentistry both nationally and internationally. He received his implant surgical fellowship from Loma Linda University in 2003 followed by a Certificate in Prosthodontics and MSD degree in Prosthodontics specialty. He has numerous publications about prosthodontics and implant related subjects as well as a recent study at Loma Linda University about the accuracy of stereolithographic models. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology, a Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, and is Board eligible by the American College of Prosthodontics. He maintains a private practice limited to prosthodontics and implant dentistry in Glendale, California.

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