We get many questions with respect to the various workflows for conventional and digital implant restorations. In this week’s newsletter I will lay out the workflows for both digital and conventional implant restorations.

**Single Implant abutments - Conventional Workflow**

1. **Initial impression Appointment**

   Figure 1

2. **Pre-Operative - Creating a surgical stent**

   **From Lab** - Wax-up - Wax-up of the teeth in the area(s) of the proposed implant restoration.

   **From Lab** - Surgical stent often made with a proposed access hole filled with gutta percha.

   Figure 2  

   Figure 3
3. **Surgery Appointment**

**Osteotomy using surgical stent for pilot hole**
The stent is used as a surgical tool to give surgeon a basic idea as to where the implant access hole should ideally be placed. Surgeon can take an x-ray to have a general idea as to the bone position relative to the guide hole due to the gutta percha radio opaque markers. Typically in a non-guided surgery the initial pilot hole uses the surgical stent, then the stent is discarded and the rest of the osteotomy is performed free-hand.

Implant placement

![Image 4 & 5](image)

4. **Placing of healing cap.**
The healing can be used to shape tissue creating the desired emergence and support papilla between the teeth and the implant restoration.

![Image 6 & 7](image)
5. Implant level impression Appointment

After healing and integration of the implant at the next step is an implant level impression. In most cases it is advisable to take an open tray impression.
6. Restoration / Abutment(s)

From Lab - Restoration(s)

Figure 10