Introduction to Guided Implant Surgery

White Paper

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What is guided implant surgery
Guided implant surgery uses patient’s CT images to plan implant surgery through computer software. Conventional implant planning via panoramic x-ray images has its limitations as precise execution according to the surgery plan is often difficult. However, guided implant surgery can be executed accurately and precisely as planned. For guided implant surgery a customized surgical template and a specialized surgery tool kit is needed.

Guided implant surgery requires the following tools,

- Medical or Cone-beam CT
- Implant planning software
- Guided implant surgery drill kit
- Custom surgical template

Guided implant surgery follows the following procedures,

![Workflow of guided implant surgery]

**Strengths and Weakness of Guided Implant Surgery**
Guided implant surgery uses CT data to examine and pre-plan the surgery, and since precision execution can be done, guided implant surgery provides the following benefits.

- Accurate, safe, and predictable surgery.
- Shorter operation time.
- Shorter healing time with flapless surgery.
- Smaller incisions with less bleeding and pain.
- Immediate loading can be done.
- Bone graft can be minimized.

Guided implant surgery has the following weaknesses.

- Expensive CT equipment is needed.
- Patient’s bone cannot be checked during flapless surgery.
- Surgery planning takes longer.
- Need to learn how to operate planning software.
- Difficult to deal with unexpected situations during surgery.
- Requires purchase of Surgical Kit and Surgical Template.

**Cone-beam CT**
Cone-beam CT is a specialized x-ray equipment that scans the patient in three-dimension. By using Cone-beam CT along with proper software, a precise and accurate examination of the patient, with realistic visuals, can be achieved.
Implant planning software
Cone-beam CT produces images in DICOM format, and an implant planning software reads these DICOM files and reconstructs them in two-dimensional or three-dimensional images. These softwares provide various tools for implant planning, therefore, the user can refer to the anatomic structure of the patient and plan a safe surgery.
Surgical Template
Surgical template is an equipment that holds the surgical planning information. In general, it is in the shape of an orthodontic splint, and worn by the patient during surgery. On the surgical template, small metal sleeves are inserted in place, which guides the drilling and implant direction. It is essential for the surgical template to be fabricated to perfectly fit the patient. Several manufacturers provide surgical template fabrication service along with implant planning software. Upon sending the planning data made with the software back to the manufacturer, the manufacturer will use the data to fabricate a customized surgical template and have it delivered.
Figure 4. Surgical template; 6 sleeves guide the implant drilling, 2 sleeves for the anchor pin. Anchor pins are used to firmly place the surgical template in the patient's oral cavity.

Figure 5. Surgical template placed in the patient's oral cavity

- Endoscope navigation for brain surgery using virtual endoscope
- Virtual endoscope and endoscope registration methods
- Virtual endoscope registration technology using stereo endoscope
- Medical image registration technology using Stereo endoscope

Guided Implant Surgery kit
To use a surgical template for guided surgery, a special drill kit must be used. Surgical templates and implants vary from manufacturer, and various guided surgery kits are available on the market. Therefore, the manufacturer must confirm which surgery kit to be used with each surgical template.

**Table 1. Component manufacturers for Guide Implant Surgery**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Product</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cybermed</td>
<td>In2Guide™</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nobel Biocare</td>
<td>NobelGuide™</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomet 3i</td>
<td>Navigator™</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straumann</td>
<td>Guided Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Astra</td>
<td>Facilitate™</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Densplay</td>
<td>ExpertEase™</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materialise</td>
<td>SAFE SurgiGuide Kit</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guided Surgery Kit</th>
<th>Planning Software</th>
<th>Surgical Template</th>
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<tr>
<td>In2Guide™</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parts</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchor Pin/Anchor Drill</td>
<td>▪ Ensures the surgical template is firmly fixed to the oral cavity. Drilling is done with the Anchor Drill then Anchor Pin is inserted to place the surgical template.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tissue Punch</td>
<td>▪ Used to remove tissue during flapless implant surgery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drill Guide</td>
<td>▪ Connects to the sleeve and guides the drill into the planned angle and direction. There are several drill guides to accommodate different drill sizes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Anchor pin are drilled into the bone to prevent movement of the surgical template during surgery.

**Surgery**

Once the Surgery kit and surgical template is ready, the surgery procedure is as follows. The drilling sequence is shown with an implant 4.0mm. (※Drilling sequence may vary from case to case)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 3. Guided implant surgery procedure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surgical template preparation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Get rid of excess areas with bur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Disinfect the Surgical template</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Surgical template placing
- Place the surgical template using the bit index
- Drill with the Anchor drill
- Insert anchor pin

Soft tissue removal
- Using the Tissue punch, punch through the soft tissue
- Take out the Anchor pin and remove the surgical template
- Remove the Soft tissue
- Place the Surgical template and reinsert the anchor pin

Drilling
- Drill with 2.0mm drill guide and 2.0mm drill.
- Drill with 3.0mm drill guided and 3.0mm drill.
**Implant installation**
- Attach the guided surgery mount to the implant
- Place all implants
- Remove anchor pin and detach surgical template

**Attach provisional restoration**
- Attach the pre-made provisional restoration

※Unless being a case of Immediate loading, this step can be skipped.

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**Surgical template drilling mechanism**
As described above, upon surgery planning with an implant planning software, a surgical template is fabricated based on the planning. The following figure shows how the drilling direction and depth is applied.

**Figure 7. Deciding the sleeve position using a 5mm implant and 21mm drill**
In the figure above, the left image shows a plan for an 11.5mm implant to be placed in the 36 tooth region. If a 21mm drill is used, the sleeve is placed 8.5mm above bone level. The leftover 1mm is the thickness of the drill guide; therefore, drilling is done precisely to the length of the implant.
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