AO takes ‘Trip up the Implant’

The Academy of Osseointegration will host its 23rd annual meeting, “A Trip up the Implant,” from Feb. 28 through March 1 at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston.

The meeting is being co-sponsored by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS), the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) and the American College of Prosthodontists (ACP). The resources of all four organizations have been combined to develop a scientific and clinical program that will embrace a broad range of topics and speakers in a multi-disciplinary forum.

The meeting will feature three days of scientific sessions, including: clinical innovations, corporate forums, limited attendance lectures, oral research presentations, poster presentations, round-table clinics, symposia and more.

For more information or to register for the event, contact Academy of Osseointegration at (800) 656-7756 or go online to www.osseo.org.

(Source: AO)

A simplified, minimally invasive sinus lift technique using autogenous bone

By Drs. Samuel Lee and Grace Lee, DDS

Implant dentistry in posterior maxilla has often been a challenge due to pneumatized sinus. Bone grafting in sinus cavity is known to be very predictable with good long-term success.

There have been several surgical techniques suggested for sinus lift such as lateral window (Cald Well Luc), osteotome (Summer’s) technique, Hydrolic sinus lift, etc. However, lateral window technique is somewhat invasive with many complications and post-operative pain involved. In contrast, Summer’s and Hydrolic Sinus procedures are less invasive, but more technique sensitive.

This author developed a very simple and predictable way to lift Schneiderian membrane and at the same time collect autogenous bone. The procedure can be done with or without flap with minimal postoperative discomfort. The author named the procedure “The WaterLESS” technique and was awarded the table clinic award at 2007 American Academy of Implant Dentistry’s annual meeting at Las Vegas.

Conventional implant osteotomy technique utilizes ample amount of irrigation at 800-1600 rpm in order to prevent overheating a bone. However, utilization of water washes out bone particles collected at implant drills. In contrast, WaterLESS technique is drilling at 40 rpm at 50 Ncm without irrigation. This low speed prevents bone heating, allows bone collection, and increases tactile sensitivity. Using the right shape burs and without water at low speed, implant clinicians can collect autogenous bone as much as 0.5 cc per osteotomy site (Figs. 1a and 1b).

With conventional osteotomy technique at high speed, the surgeon can’t feel anatomical structure of bone as well as in slow WaterLESS