

Practice Profile

Carolina Center for Restorative Dentistry creates “one-stop” implant shop

The Carolina Center for Restorative Dentistry has created a “one-stop specialty shop” for implants. Academy member Dr. **Kenneth Barrack** teams up with a leading periodontist to offer a “one-stop shop” in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, a suburb of Charleston. Together with their in-house Dental Innovations Laboratory, they can provide a complete implant service to patients under one roof and with one patient relationship.

“The conventional process of having the patient first enter the implant treatment planning arena and then be farmed out to other specialists, then having the doctors get together to finalize the treatment presentation, and finally meet once again with the patient can become burdensome,” says Dr. Barrack. The “disconnects” in communication can be very difficult to overcome.

To help solve the problem and tighten the communication gaps that were developing with this conventional system Dr. Barrack decided to put an advertisement in the state dental association newsletter seeking an in-house periodontist.

“I took a long time before I hit the send button on that e-mail,” he remembers. “I ran through in my mind: ‘What are the ramifications of an in-house periodontist? Referrals would probably dry up from other periodontists, and could I support an in-house periodontist with just my patients?’

“The benefits would be enhanced communication and the ability to offer treatment while the patient only had to establish one relationship with one office. We could spell out the treatment plan and fees in one treatment planning session for the patient, the doctors, and the staff,” he adds.

The periodontist who responded to Dr. Barrack’s first advertisement, Dr. **David Oyster**, is a retired U.S. Navy periodontist who was looking for three days in the office. He also wanted to teach part time at the Medical University of South Carolina and now does so in the post-graduate Periodontics Clinic as an Associate Clinical Professor.

Dr. Oyster practiced with Dr. Barrack for four years, until this year deciding to leave for personal reasons. Dr. Barrack is now looking for a new periodontist partner.

Dr. Barrack started the Carolina Center for Restorative Dentistry in 1995, with one assistant and himself. He received his undergraduate and DDS degrees from Emory University,

Atlanta, Ga. and his prosthodontic education at New York University (NYU) as an Air Force-sponsored student.

“At NYU, the faculty introduced me to the Academy of Osseointegration. In addition, my uncle, Dr. Gerald Barrack, is a Past President of the Academy (1990-91). The attending prosthodontists at NYU were among the pioneers in the Academy of Osseointegration,” says Dr. Barrack.

The payback for the residency scholarship was a position at the Charleston Air Force Base. Dr. Barrack was a general dentist in the U.S. Navy from 1985 to 1988. He and Dr. Oyster were actually in the same indoctrination course at Portsmouth, VA, in 1985.



Dr. Kenneth Barrack (center) with the staff of the Carolina Center for Restorative Dentistry. Dr. Mayur Paten is on the far left.

Today, the Carolina Center for Restorative Dentistry has a staff of 13, with the addition of a second prosthodontist, Dr. **Mayur Paten**, in 2004. Dr. Paten graduated from Davidson College and the University of West Virginia Dental School for both his DDS and MS in Prosthodontics.

Dental Innovations Laboratory is owned and operated by Drs. Barrack and Paten and has two full-time technicians on staff. The combination of specialists and laboratory support in one office has worked for Drs. Barrack and Paten.

Dr. Barrack states: “We’re able to coordinate the patient’s treatment needs in the same appointment time. We can plan crown lengthening, tooth restorability, extractions, socket-preservation, and eventual implant placement.

“This way, the patient leaves with an ‘end-in-sight’ treatment plan, with the goals clear to both the patient and the surgical-restorative team. If we’re not all headed down the same road, we might end up at the wrong place. The treatment planning session and updates along the way make sure we’re on the same page at all times,” he adds.

Dr. Barrack and his staff have regularly attended the Academy’s Annual Meeting and he sums up the value of AO attendance as follows: “The knowledge gleaned from the meeting and brought back to the office is even more powerful for us when we have attended together. The AO Annual Meeting is the highlight of our group’s continuing education.”

To learn more about the Carolina Center for Restorative Dentistry you can go to www.ccrdonline.com.