

THANKS TO ZEST ANCHORS THIS PATIENT IS 'THRILLED' TO ENJOY FAVORITE FOODS

Why this patient would recommend the system to any patient who misses smiling without feeling self-conscious. [By Terri Lively]



LARRY FLEISHER

Las Vegas
Patient of Andrew Ingel, DMD, FAGD, and Michael Scherer, DMD, MS, FACP.

Larry Fleisher knew the situation in his mouth was not going to get any better. The time had come to take action, to restore his smile, so his wife, whom he describes as “the boss,” could smile back without cringing.

“I’m old,” he joked, “Of advanced age.” I did not pay attention to my mouth when I could afford to,” he said of his dental care over the years. “When I couldn’t afford to pay attention to them, my teeth started to disintegrate. My wife told me to get in touch with the dental school.”

Larry met Drs. Andrew Ingel and Michael Scherer at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV). Through their program, he was asked to participate in the UNLV Narrow Diameter Implant Overdenture 101 educational course,

conducted by the Continuing Education department at UNLV School of Dental Medicine to educate dentists on the latest in implant overdenture techniques.

Over the course of the next year, Drs. Ingel and Scherer and the team worked on restoring his smile.

Before he began treatment, he had an assortment of issues, including missing teeth and a broken bridge he had glued back in himself, restricting what he could eat and making him feel self-conscious about his smile.

Comfortable with the team’s integrity, Larry had few concerns about the narrow diameter implant system used (ZEST Anchors LODI System). He confesses the hardest part of the treatment had nothing to do with the LODI system but the extractions he needed before the implant placement.

“The most discomfort was having my teeth pulled. It was a difficult day and for days afterwards. But that was to be expected,” he said.

Barring the extraction needed for his particular case, however, he had little to no discomfort following the placement of the LODI Overdenture implants. He describes the process as, “The least traumatic that he ever had.” Afterward, he took nothing stronger than aspirin for the recovery and went out to dinner that night with his wife.

“It was six hours until I could eat. I had the procedure on a Saturday morning. Dr. Scherer and the team said to go home and rest. Later, we went to Capriotti’s (a sandwich shop near his home), and they have a Philly cheesesteak. I had a hoagie that night. I was thrilled to death.”

The LODI system is low-maintenance for Larry. Once the treatment concluded, Dr. Ingel told Larry to come in if he had any problems but otherwise, he would see Larry for an assessment in a year.

There is no additional work needed besides the routine maintenance and cleaning that accompanies any denture system. Best of all, Larry can smile again.

He took a stack of business cards and gave them to at least a dozen people. Larry recommends the LODI system to anyone embarrassed about his or her smile or reluctant to open his or her mouth and look foolish.

“I have no problems with this. None whatsoever,” he said. “It works. It’s all you can really tell somebody. There was very little discomfort and it took no time. The nicest part was when it was over, and I could smile and I could eat,” he said.

“I just want to thank the team. I am forever in their debt. When I smile, my wife can say, ‘Gee what a handsome guy!’ once again.” ●



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The LOCATOR® Overdenture Implant System or LODI is a product growing in popularity for treating patients who wish to secure their traditional dentures or partials. Known for both its efficacy for use with narrow ridges by providing a less invasive and predictable implant, the LODI is a long-term and cost-effective implant-retained overdenture option. Other features include a lower vertical height compared to other implant overdenture attachments, which makes it ideal for fitting in tight spaces with removable partial dentures. Also, it features a two-part system that includes a LOCATOR attachment placed after the implant, enabling replacement in the case of wear over time. LODI can offer a less invasive alternative to bone grafting and may be immediately loaded when indicated.

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