Dear reader,

During a Greater New York Dental Meeting a couple of years ago, I had the rare opportunity to speak to one of the first dentists in the USA and worldwide to have introduced rapid oral HIV tests to a dental prac-
tice. I can vividly remember her en-
thusiasm concerning the new tech-
nology in my interview with her. Since then, few of her colleagues have followed her example unfortu-
nately. It is thus encouraging to see

A controversial topic in dentistry

Dr. Sushil Koirala

Cosmetic dentists around the world routinely perform various diagnostic and therapeutic pro-
cedures that involve occlusion. Smile aesthetics and occlusion has been, and is still to some extent, controversial, as there are nu-
merous questions related to smile and occlusion that have not been answered with scientific certainty and there are many diverse and

In their undergraduate educa-
tion, dental students are not fully trained in the science and art of both smile aesthetics and occlu-
sion. When these new graduates enter into clinical practice and be-
gin undertaking complex clinical cases, many become confused with the numerous theoretical recom-
mandations and varied concepts about cosmetic dentistry and oc-
clusion in academic and clinical dentistry. In order to understand the core relationship between smile aesthetics and occlusion, a clini-
cian must be familiar with the pros and cons of all the popular concepts and theories regarding smile aesthetics and occlusion, and based on this select the most conservative treatment that is best suited to the patient and that will ensure health and function. With this in mind, two global educational adae-
mires, namely Minimally Invasive Cosmetic Dentistry, or MiCD, and Teeth, Muscles, Joints and Airway Harmony, or TMJA, have been es-
blished with the aim of promoting healthy, comprehensive dentistry by disseminating the relevant knowledge and information re-
garding various concepts, theories and clinical protocols concerning smile aesthetics and occlusion.

I am pleased to mention here that recently the Faculty of Dentistry of Thammasat University in Thai-
land and the Vedic Institute of Smile Aesthetics in Nepal, along with three supporting partners, signed a memorandum of understanding to establish the MiCD and TMJA Harmony International Training and Treatment Center at the Faculty of Den-
tistry of Thammasat University. This centre will coordinate with various like-minded clinicians, acade-

Contact Info

Dr. Sushil Koirala maintains a private practice that focuses pri-
marily on MiCD in Kathmandu, Nepal. He is also Editor-in-Chief of our sister publication Cosmetic Dentistry. He can be contacted at skoirala@wlink.com.np.

Contact Info

Dr. Isabella Rocchietta performs clinical work in periodontics and implant dentistry in London. She can be contact at isabella.rocchietta@gmail.com.

A new paradigm

Isabella Rocchietta

Newadays, implant positioning is driven by prosthetic demands and requirements ra-
ther than the quality, quantity and morphology of the available bone and often we find ourselves confronted with the dilemma of whether the treatment plan should contemplate bone re-
generation after a meticulous diagnosis.

Bone regeneration has em-
braced tissue engineering to overcome demanding cases. The concept lies in having a 3-D scaffold that holds specific sig-

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