Zygomatic, Pterygoid, and Customized patient-specific Implants:

Expanding Possibilities for Severely Atrophic Patients







Dan Holtzclaw

Shuaib Malik

Tirakhsh Emadi

Course Description:

Severe atrophy of the jaws presents one of the greatest challenges in implant dentistry. Conventional grafting techniques may be unpredictable, invasive, or require extended healing times, limiting treatment options for patients with advanced bone resorption. This intensive two-day CE program explores the transformative role of zygomatic, pterygoid, and customized CAD/CAM patient-specific implants in expanding treatment possibilities for these complex cases. Each of these implants exploit the existing bone in key sites (zygoma, pterygoid plate, or jaw surface topography) to anchor implants securely.

Through lectures, case reviews, and immersive hands-on workshops, participants will gain a deep understanding of the biological principles, surgical techniques, prosthetic workflows, and digital innovations that make these advanced therapies both predictable and safe. Internationally recognized experts will share evidence-based protocols and clinical pearls, equipping attendees with the knowledge and skills to integrate these advanced implant strategies into daily practice.

By the end of the program, participants will have familiarity to critically evaluate patient cases, select the appropriate surgical and prosthetic approach, and implement digital workflows to streamline treatment for patients with severely resorbed jaws.

Educational Objectives:

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

Case Selection & Diagnosis

• Evaluate clinical and radiographic criteria for treatment planning in severely atrophic jaws.

• Identify patients best suited for zygomatic, pterygoid, or customized CAD/CAM patient-specific implants versus grafting alternatives.

Surgical Foundations:

- Recognize surgical anatomy, key landmarks, and safe approaches for implant placement in the zygomatic and pterygoid regions.
- Master flap designs that ensure visibility, minimize morbidity, and preserve vascularity.
- Understand biomechanical principles and implant design features critical to long-term stability.
- Follow step-by-step surgical protocols for implant placement, including drilling sequences, angulations, and fixation strategies.
- Understand the role of soft tissue management for long-term stability of implants.

Prosthetic Protocols:

- Plan prosthetic rehabilitation with consideration of immediate vs. delayed loading protocols.
- Master impression techniques, prosthetic material selection, and restorative design for unconventional anchorage.
- Apply advanced prosthetic workflows including photogrammetry and digital scanning for accuracy and efficiency.

Digital Innovations:

- Integrate CBCT, intraoral scanning, and virtual planning into clinical decision-making.
- Apply CAD/CAM workflows for customized patient-specific implants and prosthetic components.

Complications & Risk Management:

• Identify intraoperative and postoperative complications unique to zygomatic, pterygoid, and patient-specific implants.

November 7 - 8, 2026

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM (16 CE Units)



• Implement preventive strategies and management protocols to optimize patient safety and long-term outcomes.

Hands-On Experience:

• Gain practical exposure through simulated surgical and prosthetic exercises in hands-on workshops.

Course Venue:

VISTA Institute for Therapeutic Innovations

Tuition In-Person:

\$1695 before May 1, 2025

\$1895 before July 1, 2026

\$2095 after July 1, 2026

Free with gold membership

Tuition - Remote (Live or On-Demand):

\$795 before May 1, 2025

\$895 before July 1, 2026

\$995 after July 1, 2026

Free with gold and silver membership

Registration & Cancellation Policy:

www.learnVISTA.com



